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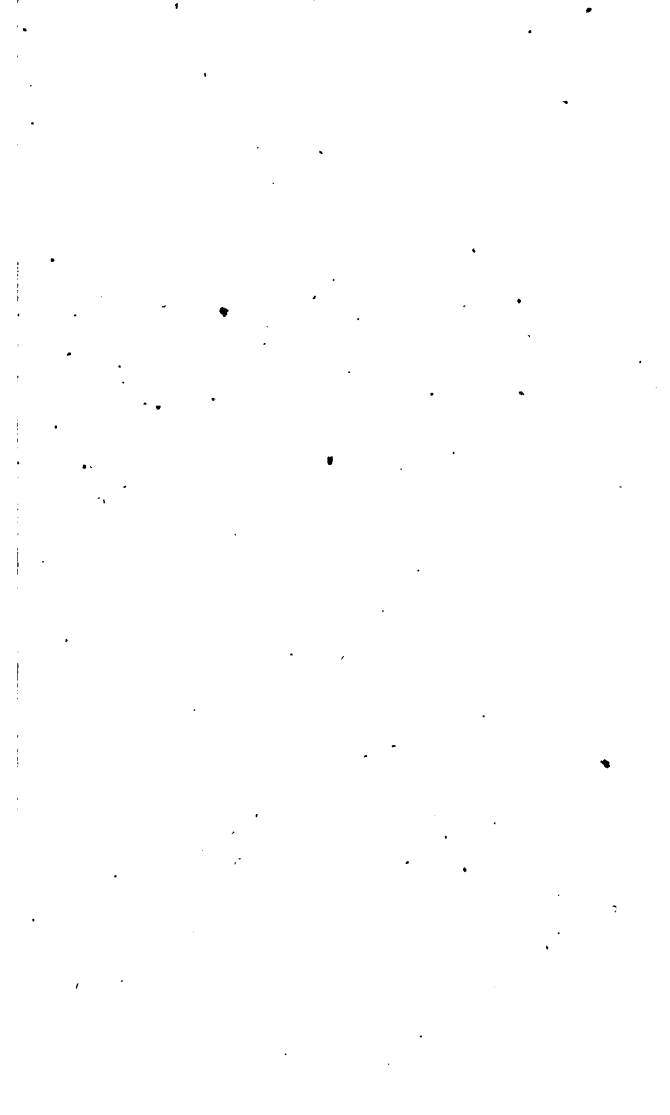


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*Gen. Marquis de Lafayette, Boston*

LAFAYETTE.

THE  
STORY  
OF THE  
LIFE OF LAFAYETTE,  
AS TOLD  
BY A FATHER TO HIS CHILDREN.

---

BY THE AUTHOR  
OF THE 'CHILDREN'S ROBINSON CRUSOE.'

---

With plain heroic magnitude of mind.  
MILTON.  
And those who paint him truest praise him most.  
ADDISON.

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**"THERE are different orders of greatness. Among these, the first rank is unquestionably due to *moral* greatness, or magnanimity ; to that sublime energy, by which the soul, smitten with the love of virtue, binds itself indissolubly, for life and for death, to truth and duty ; espouses as its own the interests of human nature ; scorns all meanness, and defies all peril ; hears in its own conscience a voice louder than threatenings and thunders ; withstands all the powers of the universe, which would sever it from the cause of freedom and religion ; reposes an unfaltering trust in God in the darkest hour ; and is ever ready to be offered up on the altar of its country or of mankind."**

**CHANNING.**

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## LAFAYETTE.

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‘How I wish I had lived in the days of Alexander or Cæsar, and had seen one of those great men!’ exclaimed Henry Moreton, as he rose from the table, where he had been deeply engaged, reading an abridgment of Universal History.

‘My dear Henry,’ said his father, looking up from his newspaper, ‘you have seen one of the greatest men that ever figured in any history, ancient or modern.’

‘Have I, father! whom do you mean? Was Napoleon ever in this country?’

‘No, my son; but a much greater man than Napoleon has been here; a person of a more exalted character than any of the heroes you have been reading of, has been our familiar friend and guest, has smiled on our children, and lives in our hearts. How can any boy who stood on Boston Common, on the 24th of August, 1824, forget that he has seen one of the most extraordinary men that ever lived!’

‘O you mean Lafayette ! I did not know that he was any thing so very wonderful. I knew that he helped us in our war of Independence, and that he was the friend of America, and had always been on the side of freedom in France ; but I never heard of his doing any great and brilliant things, of his leading thousands to conquest, as the heroes of old did. I should think, father, that Napoleon was a greater man than Lafayette, though not so good a one, I would give any thing to have seen Napoleon. Why do you look so serious and thoughtful, father ? Are you displeased with me for thinking Napoleon greater than Lafayette ?’

‘No, my son, I am not at all displeased. I wish that you should have your own opinions, and express them freely to me ; but I am somewhat surprised at your admiration of the conquerors and tyrants of the earth.’

‘Well, but, father, do n’t you think Alexander and Cæsar the greatest heroes of antiquity ? I am sure, all the books I read at school, describe them as wonderful persons, and praise them up to the skies.’

‘Ay, there is the mischief, I suppose,’ said Mr. Moreton ; ‘and I wish all such books were banished from our schools ; they call things by wrong names, and fill your head full of wrong notions. Now I will tell you, Henry, what kind of greatness Alexander was remarkable for.

He was a brave and skilful general, and thought fighting the great business of life. He lived in a rude state of the world, when every thing was obtained by force ; the people were ignorant, the comforts and luxuries of life were enjoyed only by a few, and the barbarous multitude liked nothing better than to be led to conquest by some ambitious ruler, and to live by plunder. Murder and theft, on a large scale, were considered as noble deeds ; and those who committed the greatest ravages, plundered the most cities, killed the most people, and brought under their control the greatest number of nations, were distinguished by the title of *great*, and were most celebrated in history ; but you do not surely admire or approve such deeds.'

'These things seem quite different,' replied Henry, 'when you describe them, from what they do when I read of them in my school-books. But tell me, father, was not Napoleon a great man ? He lived but a little while ago ; so we must know more of him than we can of Alexander. I heard a gentleman in a bookseller's shop say, the other day, that Napoleon was the greatest Emperor, the greatest General, and the greatest Lawgiver that ever lived. Don't you think him a very great man, too ?'

'He had one kind of greatness ; he could do wonderful things in war. But I should as



soon think of admiring a very daring robber, on account of the strength, bravery, and skill which he used in breaking open my house, putting my family to death, and taking all my goods for his own use, as of admiring Napoleon's conduct as a conqueror. There is another kind of greatness, Henry, which is far superior to Napoleon's. It is that by which a man conquers himself, resists the strongest temptations, and perseveres in doing right amidst the greatest dangers and difficulties. As it is not so easy to understand this kind of greatness as the other, it is less talked about and praised ; but when you read the life of Washington, or Lafayette, you will have some idea of it, for they are striking examples of it.'

'I dare say you are quite right, father ; but when I heard so much about Napoleon's greatness, I thought he must be the greatest of all.'

'That is very natural ; but have you never heard him spoken ill of, too ?'

After some reflection, Henry replied, 'Yes ; I remember what that German gentleman said of him, who dined here a few days ago. He called him a monster of selfishness, and the greatest enemy that freedom ever had, and said a great deal more that I cannot recollect, for I did not understand it so well as those two first things he said.'

'Well, no matter for the rest ; that is enough to show you that there are different opinions

about Napoleon, and therefore we must not judge by what we hear in this way.'

'Well, I am sure I don't know how to find out for myself which is right; so I shall believe just as you do, father.'

'I would much rather that you should take pains to learn the principal facts in Napoleon's life, and then form your own opinion, independent of mine; and do the same with respect to Lafayette. I do not wish you to think him a truly great man because I do; but I do most earnestly desire, that every little boy and girl in America should know the principal facts in Lafayette's remarkable life. Those who were present on that memorable day, when he was received in the city of Boston, with all the honors it could bestow, ought certainly to know why he was welcomed in so distinguished a manner. What do you recollect of that day, my son? You were only six years old, and could not know much about it.'

'I recollect how my legs ached, standing so long in one place; and I remember having a ribbon with a picture of Lafayette pinned on my jacket, and seeing a great many children all in rows, and I wished we might either sit down, or play about; but there we were waiting, and obliged to stand till we were so tired —'

'That's enough about what you suffered; now tell me what you saw.'

'At last, they cried out he was coming, and

I saw a carriage with several people in it ; but a great boy pushed before me, and I am not sure that I saw Lafayette after all, for I was so confused I could not tell which was the right one. But I saw one with his hair cut straight across his forehead, and he seemed to look directly at me ; and he smiled and bowed his head, and I could not help looking at him all the time.'

'That was the very man, Henry ; and the more you know of his extraordinary life, the more you will admire him, and rejoice that you have seen him. The better you grow, too, the better you will understand the kind of greatness of which he is an example. When you know all he did and all he suffered, and the wonderful courage he showed in doing right, I have no doubt you and I shall agree as to his character.'

'I am all ready, father ; give me the book that tells all about him, and I will begin to read it this minute. I hope it is written for children, and that I can understand it easily.'

'I am sorry to say there is no book suited to your age, about that great and good man. I have read different accounts of him in various French and English works, but none that you could fully understand.'

'Well, then, father,' exclaimed Henry, 'you can tell it all to me, and that will be better than any book. I love to hear you talk about things.'

‘But Lafayette’s life is full of remarkable events, and it would take me a great while to tell it all; I don’t know when I could spare the time.’

‘I know when; you can tell it to me and all the children, in the dusk of the evening, when you come home from the store, and before tea. You know you always say that hour belongs to us; and if you would tell us Lafayette’s history, we would all sit still and listen to it.’

‘You would like it, I dare say; but how do you think little Fanny would like to hear me tell a story she could not understand, instead of playing with her, and *riding* her on my shoulders?’

This difficulty Henry had not thought of; but he was too fond of his little sister, and too generous, to wish to interfere with her pleasures; so he allowed that Fanny ought not to lose her play, and only sighed to think he could not hear his father tell the history of Lafayette.

His father and mother afterwards agreed, that as it was very desirable the elder children should know the principal facts in Lafayette’s life, the hour before tea should be divided between them and the little ones. Their father should play with them all for half an hour, and then the younger ones should go off to the nursery, and he should entertain the elder ones with his narrative.

This was announced to Maria, Henry, and Jane at tea-time ; it was joyfully and thankfully received, and their father promised to begin the next evening. As he wished to be very correct in dates, names, and the order of events, he spent most of that evening in looking over books that he had read on the subject, and sending to borrow others relating to it.

Whilst he was thus occupied, the children kept very still, that he might not be disturbed. Maria whispered to Henry, ‘How glad I am that I have not got to dive into all those large books, to pick out Lafayette’s history from them. Only see, Henry, there is Scott’s Life of Napoleon, Marshall’s Life of Washington, a History of America, another of the French Revolution, besides all those French books ! Suppose we had to read them all before we could understand Lafayette’s character ; what would you think of that ?’

‘I think,’ replied Henry, ‘that I should let it alone, and only think of him as the pleasant old gentleman, who nodded to me on the Common. But what are you doing, Maria ? Why are you sewing those white leaves into that old copy-book cover ?’

‘I am making a book to write down all I can remember of what papa tells us, for his story will not be like a printed book that we can read over and over again ; when it is once told, it will be

done ; so I am determined to write down, every evening, after tea, what I have just heard, and keep it by me to look at, when I forget any thing.'

'That is a capital thought,' said Henry ; 'I will do the same ;' and to work he went to make a note-book like Maria's.

Jane looked as if she wished she could write well enough to take notes too. Maria perceived what her sister was thinking about, so she told her she should use her note-book and Henry's, and that she could help both of them, if she remembered well what her father told her.

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## FIRST EVENING.

'Good night, Fanny ! good night, Willy !' said Henry, as the door closed after the little ones. The hearty manner in which he spoke made it sound vastly like 'good riddance,' instead of 'good night' ; but we must excuse Henry for being glad the half hour of play was over, as he longed so much to hear his father begin the history of Lafayette.

'Here, papa,' said Maria, 'here is the rocking-chair for you, and Henry can sit on

one side and I on the other, and Jane upon your lap; and if the fire will only go on blazing, as it does now, we can see all you say, and understand it well.' Henry laughed at the idea of seeing words, and asked Maria of what color they were; on which Maria gravely explained that she only meant they could see her father's face when he was speaking, and understand him the better for that.

'Are you going to hear Lafayette, too?' said Jane to her mother, as she observed her drawing up her chair to the fire-side, and taking up her knitting-work.

'To be sure I am; for I don't know half as much as I ought, about our own Lafayette; and I should be very sorry to miss this opportunity of gaining information so easily.'

'Now, papa, do begin; we are all ready,' was repeated from mouth to mouth.

'I must first remark,' said Mr. Moreton, 'how snug and comfortable we are here, and how much we enjoy each other's society. How would either of you like to leave your pleasant home now, and take a long voyage, and go among strangers?'

'Not at all; I would not leave my dear home for the world,' was the sentiment expressed by all.

'Well, then, you must know that General Lafayette had as pleasant a home as we have, and loved it as well; he might have lived at

his ease, and enjoyed all those privileges and luxuries which belonged, at that time, to the rich and powerful men in France, called *the nobility*. He had a great fortune, and the title of *Marquis*; he was young, handsome, highly educated and accomplished, surrounded by friends who loved him, and as fond of his own fireside as we are; yet, for the sake of doing good, he left his comfortable home, his kind friends, his dear wife, and all the luxuries and privileges to which he had been accustomed, to cross the ocean, and come to the assistance of strangers, in a far distant land!’

‘How disinterested! how noble!’ said Maria and Henry at the same moment. ‘Had he any children to leave?’ inquired Mrs. Moreton.

‘I believe not,’ replied her husband; ‘I cannot find any mention of children so early as this.’

‘I am glad of it,’ said Jane, ‘because they would have been so unhappy to have their dear father go away. But why, papa, did Lafayette wish to help people that were so far off, and strangers to him, too?’

‘He was no stranger to their history; he knew that the Americans were ill-treated by the English government, and that they were engaged in a very dangerous contest with the parent country; he knew them to be an intelligent and virtuous people, capable of govern-



ing themselves ; and perceiving that England was resolved to keep them under her severe control if she could, his love of justice and love of liberty made him take the part of the young country, and resolve to do all in his power to help her. He was acquainted with Dr. Franklin and several other Americans, then in Paris, who were trying to borrow money from the French government, to pay the expenses of our war. From them he heard such accounts of the wretched condition of our army, and the superior numbers of the British, as would have discouraged almost any one from joining in such a desperate cause ; but all he heard of our difficulties, only increased his wish to help us.

‘ It was when things were at their worst with us, that he resolved to come to our assistance. Our soldiers were retreating before the British ; they were without shoes to their feet, or clothes enough to cover them, and were very scantily supplied with provisions. Our agents in Paris had failed of getting any money from the French government, and many of our best friends despaired of our success, and thought England would certainly conquer us. But not so Lafayette ; nothing could discourage him. When the worst was told him, he exclaimed, “ Hitherto I have only loved your cause ; I now go to espouse it personally.”

‘ He found that the American agents, though

they gladly accepted his offer of serving their country, could not furnish him with a vessel to carry him out. They were obliged to acknowledge that they had not the means; they and their government at home were too poor to do any thing about it. "Well, then," said the noble youth, "I will buy a vessel, and fit it out myself." He did so, and fearing the French government might interfere with his plans, and prevent him from going, he had his vessel sent round to a port in Spain, near the borders of France; and not until he had left Paris, was his enterprise known to his near and powerful friends. They were in a great stir, when they heard where he was gone; and as his wife's uncle was ambassador to England, it was soon known in London, and made a great sensation there also.

'Some of his relations sent messengers after him to stop him, if possible, before he could set sail; but when they arrived, he had been gone three hours. The English rulers were very much provoked with this young French nobleman, for going to assist the rebellious colonies in America; and the English ambassador in Paris persuaded the French government to send orders for his arrest, not only to the ports of France, but to the French naval commanders on the American station. He, however, had fairly got the start of them all,

and was sailing away over the ocean, whilst they were making all this fuss about him.

‘Baron de Kalb, and three or four other French officers, accompanied the Marquis de Lafayette to America. Having escaped the British cruisers, they arrived safely in South Carolina, and landed on the beach near Georgetown, about sixty miles from Charleston. It was already dark when they went ashore ; but seeing a light at a distance they shaped their course towards it, through the bushes, till they came to a house, surrounded by a fence. The dogs growled and barked ; then somebody came to the door, and demanded who they were, and what they wanted. De Kalb spoke a little English, and he endeavoured to explain matters ; but the people in the house did not credit his story ; they thought these Frenchmen were come on shore in the night, on a plundering expedition, and it was some time before the strangers made themselves understood and believed. When at length they were taken in, and their true character was known, they were treated with great civility. The house belonged to Judge Huger, who had retired there with his family. If Lafayette noticed the gambols of a child of four or five years old, named Francis Huger, he little thought that he should one day be indebted to that boy for risking his life in a most dangerous exploit, to release him from prison ; yet this

was afterwards the case, as you will hear when I come to that part of my story. It was on the 25th of April, 1777, that Lafayette first landed on our shores; and as he was born on the 6th of September, 1757, you may tell us, Jane, how old he was when he arrived. *Jane.*

As Jane was accustomed to do the sums in Colburn's Arithmetic, she answered very quickly, 'He was nineteen years, and seven months, and nineteen days old.'

'O you need not be so particular,' said Henry, 'we only want to know how many years old he was. Nineteen! that was very young to be of so much importance. I shall remember the year he landed by the figures being all 7s, except the first, 1777.'

Maria said, 'That is quite enough about dates; now, papa, do go on, and tell us how the good youth of nineteen was received by the Americans; I hope they were glad to see him.'

'Indeed they were; Lafayette's arrival made a greater impression here, than his departure did in Europe. It sent a feeling of joy and gratitude and hope throughout every part of the Thirteen States. The people had been struggling with so many difficulties, that they were almost disheartened; but when they found that their contest for freedom, in this remote country, had excited so deep an interest, even among the nobility of Europe, that

one of the first young men in France had come to share in their toils and dangers, and to do all in his power to assist them, it gave them fresh spirit to carry on the war, and fresh hopes that they should receive the assistance they so much needed from the French government. I have heard it said, by one who lived in those days, that we cannot believe how much the people of this country were cheered and encouraged by the arrival of the young Marquis de Lafayette, or how much good was done simply by his coming here. He, however, was no looker-on; he set to work immediately.

The day after his arrival at Judge Huger's, he proceeded to Charleston, where he was hospitably entertained by Governor Rutledge. While there, his vessel, that brought him from France, came into port, and was loaded with rice; but it was stranded on the bar in going out, and lost. This misfortune did not prevent him from presenting a hundred men with clothing, arms, and other accoutrements, as a testimony of his admiration of the valor they had just displayed in defending Sullivan's Island against the attack of the British men-of-war.'

'That was a good beginning,' said Maria, 'and must have proved at once to the Americans, that he meant to be a real friend to them.'

‘From Charleston he went by land to Philadelphia, which was the seat of the new government, and sent his letter of introduction to the President of Congress. He also wrote a note to him, requesting to be admitted into the American service, and stating that he wished to serve on two conditions ; — first, to receive no pay ; second, to be a volunteer, that is, without any command, because he was afraid of interfering with American officers.’

‘I hope they did give him a command,’ said Henry, ‘though he was so generous as not to wish for it.’

‘No, Congress thought it best to accept his services on his own terms ; but they appointed the young Marquis a Major-General in the army of the United States.’

Here Maria asked why Lafayette was never called *Marquis* when he was last here.

‘Because, my dear,’ replied her father, ‘he chose to give up that distinction long ago. He was such a true republican that he did not approve of titles ; and when I come to tell you about the part he took in the French revolution, you will find that he voluntarily gave up all his privileges as a nobleman. But, at the time of our revolution, he held the rank of Marquis, and was generally called by that title.’

‘Now, father,’ exclaimed Henry, who was not so fond of explanations as his elder sister, ‘pray

go on, and tell us what Lafayette did next, and where he first met General Washington.'

'General Washington happened to come to Philadelphia, soon after Lafayette's arrival there; and they first met at a dinner-party in that city. Washington said very little while at table, and was no doubt making his observations on the young Frenchman; but after dinner he spoke to him very kindly, complimented him on his zeal in the American cause, and desired him, whenever he chose, to consider himself a member of his family. Lafayette accepted this invitation, accompanied the commander-in-chief on his return to camp, and ever afterwards had all the privileges of an inmate in his family. As he was fifteen years younger than Washington, he would naturally look up to him with the love and reverence of a son to the best of fathers; and I have always thought that the character of that wise man must have had a powerful effect in forming that of Lafayette, and that the ardent young Frenchman was indebted to his intimate communion with the mind of Washington for some of that moderation and prudence, for which he was afterwards so remarkable.

'The head-quarters of the army were in New Jersey, when Lafayette joined it; and a few days afterwards he shed his blood for us in the battle of Brandywine, where he served as a volunteer, without any command, but

doing all he could wherever his services were wanted.'

'What was that queer name, papa?' said Jane; 'I thought you said brandy and wine.'

'So I did, my dear; Brandywine is the name of a small river in Chester county, Pennsylvania, on the banks of which the two armies fought. I have not time to describe the whole battle to you, but when you read the history of our revolution, you will find the account very interesting. I only mean to tell you how Lafayette was wounded. He saw that a manœuvre of Washington's was likely to be defeated by the retreat of a company of grenadiers, who were without a leader; so he threw himself off his horse, drew his sword, and placed himself at their head, in the midst of the enemy's fire. Encouraged by him, the men stood their ground long enough for Washington to complete his manœuvre; but just at that moment, the brave youth was wounded in his knee, and was obliged to retire with his grenadiers.'

'I hope the Americans won the battle,' said Henry.

'No, they did not; the British were victorious, and our troops were obliged to retreat. They went to Chester that night, and to Philadelphia the next day.'

'Why did our troops lose the battle, if they fought well?' said Maria.



‘It was partly owing to some wrong information which General Washington received, as to the movements of the enemy, and partly in consequence of the want of discipline in some of the new militia, and to the poor arms and ammunition of all our soldiers. Besides this, the fatigue and sufferings of our troops had been excessive. Many of them had made long marches without shoes, had lain on the wet ground without blankets, and exposed to heavy rains ; they were also very poorly clothed and fed. In point of numbers, too, they were much fewer than the British ; and under so many disadvantages, it is only wonderful that they fought so well, and secured such a good retreat. I have been thus particular in telling you about the battle of the Brandywine, because it was there that our young hero first shed his blood in our service, and it is often alluded to, in the honors paid him during his last visit ; so that, when I come to that part of his story, which is very interesting, you will not understand and enjoy it, unless you know the particulars of this event.’

‘Was he badly wounded, papa?’ asked Maria.

‘Yes,’ replied Mr. Moreton ; ‘it was a severe wound, and required time and attention to cure it ; but he joined Washington again before it was entirely healed ; and in November we hear of him at the head of some Jersey militia,

attacking and defeating three hundred Hessians. General Greene, who was engaged part of the time with him, said of Lafayette, in that battle, that "he seemed to search for danger."

'Do tell me,' said Mrs. Moreton, 'if it was the wound he received in this battle, which occasioned his walking lame, when last in this country.'

'O, to be sure it was,' said Henry. 'I should like to be lame too, if I came by it as Lafayette did;' and with these words he limped round the room as if his knee were very stiff indeed. His sister laughed, but begged him to sit down and be quiet, as it was almost tea-time, and they wanted to hear more about Lafayette. Henry did so, but looked a little mortified when his father told him he was all wrong about Lafayette's lameness; for it was occasioned by a very common accident, and had nothing to do with his wound at the battle of the Brandywine.

'Do you know how it happened?' said Mrs. Moreton.

'I have heard that it was from a fall on the ice, in which he broke his leg; I am not, however, certain that I am correct; but I am sure it was not in consequence of the wound above referred to; and I shall be very particular in my account not to tell you what I only suppose for what I really know.'

Maria gave Henry a look, which seemed to

say, ' You are not always so careful,' and then their father went on.

' Lafayette was now made commander of one of the divisions of the *continental army*, as the American soldiers were called, and was appointed to services of great danger and responsibility, in which he always acquitted himself well; but I cannot go into particulars. When you read the *Life of Washington*, or the *History of our Revolutionary War*, you will know all about Lafayette's military services, during these first two years that he spent in this country. He was constantly employed, part of the time in Pennsylvania, and part in Rhode Island, where he went to the assistance of General Sullivan. And if another Frenchman, who was sent by the French government to serve us, had been as disinterested and reasonable as Lafayette, we might not have been obliged to give up Rhode Island to the British.'

' How was that, father?' asked Henry.

' Why, you must know that the French king, Louis the Sixteenth, sent us some vessels of war, and troops, to aid us in our struggle. A squadron, which is several men-of-war together, under the command of Count d'Estaing, arrived in time to assist General Sullivan in his attack upon the British, in Newport; but owing to a disagreement between him and the French commander, the whole plan was defeated, for Count d'Estaing would not suffer the

French troops to land. Lafayette reasoned with him, and said every thing he could think of to reconcile the two commanders, and to persuade his countryman to land the troops, but in vain. Lord Howe, the English admiral, arrived on the coast with his squadron, and Count d'Estaing set sail to meet him. The two hostile fleets manœuvred for two days, each trying to get what sailors call the *weather-gage*, that is, to be nearest the point the wind blows from ; and when they were just ready to begin the battle, a dreadful tempest separated them, and injured both squadrons so much, that the English went to New York for shelter and repairs, and the French put into Newport harbour. General Sullivan now hoped Count d'Estaing would land the troops, and help him out of his difficulties. But instead of that, the French admiral was resolved to go directly to Boston. General Greene and Lafayette were sent to remonstrate with D'Estaing. They spoke to him, with great energy, of the glorious advantages which the French and American arms might gain over the English, if he would but give them his aid by sea and land ; and of the danger there was that his departure would discourage the American army, that relied so much upon him, and injure the cause he was sent to serve. They begged him not to let his own private quarrels interfere with the public good. They implor-

ed him not to sacrifice the interests of two great nations, united in a glorious cause. But they might as well have talked to the winds; the French Admiral would not be persuaded; and off he went with his fleet to Boston.'

'What a shame!' cried Henry; 'I hope he was punished for it by his own government or ours.'

'No, the poor Count was not so much to blame as he appeared to be; he had his difficulties and his reasons; and when Washington heard how much provoked General Sullivan was, he said every thing to pacify him, and prevent the soldiers from blaming the French Admiral. The army was so discouraged by the departure of the fleet, that General Sullivan was obliged to give up the attack upon Newport, and retire to the other end of the island. Knowing the great influence that the young Lafayette had over every body he reasoned with, General Sullivan requested him to go to Boston and try once more to persuade Count d'Estaing to return to their assistance, as soon as his ships were repaired. Lafayette did not at all like leaving the army, at a time when they expected an attack from the enemy; but he was always willing to sacrifice his own feelings to the good of the cause, and therefore he went off on this unpleasant errand. During his absence there were several engagements between the British and Americans, and the

arrival of four thousand fresh troops to assist the enemy obliged General Sullivan to quit the island. He was preparing to do this with great secrecy and caution, when he was agreeably surprised by the appearance of Lafayette, who was just the man he wanted, to take command of the rear-guard on his retreat. This active and zealous young officer had succeeded in obtaining a promise from the French Count, that he would come to the aid of General Sullivan, as soon as his fleet should be repaired ; this being settled, he had returned with all possible speed to the post of danger, on Rhode Island ; and found his commanding officer planning a difficult retreat across the island to the main land. I suppose I ought to explain to Jane, that the rear-guard is that part of the army which marches last. In retreating before an enemy who are following them, they often have to stop and fight for the purpose of checking the pursuers, whilst the rest of the army are allowed to escape in safety. To do this judiciously requires great skill and courage, therefore the command of the rear-guard is always entrusted to one of the best officers ; and in the present case Lafayette performed the duty so admirably, that he received the thanks of Congress for it. This timely retreat saved the army ; soon after they went into winter-quarters, and there was no more fighting for some time. During this season of

inactivity Lafayette thought he could do more for our cause by his personal exertions in his own country, than by remaining here. He therefore obtained leave of absence from Congress ; and this was accompanied by the most flattering resolutions, in which he was offered the grateful acknowledgments of the country for his signal services, and the American minister at the French court was directed to procure in Paris an elegant sword with proper mottos and devices engraved upon it, and to present it to the young Marquis as a national gift. With these and many other proofs of public and private esteem, he embarked at Boston, on board an American frigate. A part of her crew were English sailors, who had been made prisoners during the war ; and on the voyage they laid a plan for murdering all the French and Americans on board, and taking possession of the vessel. The plot was accidentally discovered only an hour before it was to have been executed, and then the mutineers were secured.'

'What a narrow escape !' said Henry ; 'if Lafayette had been killed then, there would have been an end of our story.'

'Yes, and an end of his services in our cause, and there is no knowing how it would have prospered without him. But it is time for me to leave off now, tea has been ready some time.'

The children could hardly believe their father had talked to them for half an hour, but the cold toast proved his words were true ; so they ate their suppers, and then busied themselves till bed-time, in writing their notes.

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## SECOND EVENING.

As soon as the younger children were sent off to the nursery, the older ones drew round the fire to hear their father's narrative. 'Come papa,' said Jane, here we are, all ready to hear you ; but I cannot sit down till you come, because my place is on your knee.'

Mr. Moreton took his seat, and Henry asked what was the first thing Lafayette did when he returned to France.

'He went directly to Versailles, where the royal family and officers of state resided, and had an interview with one of the king's ministers, on the very day he arrived. As a reproof to him, for his having gone to America without his permission, the king refused to see him, and he was ordered to visit none but his relations. As he was connected by birth or marriage with almost every body at court, and every body else hastened to pay their respects to the young hero at his own house, this order did not in-



commode him at all. There was at this time a treaty making between America and France, and through the influence of Lafayette with the king's ministers, it was rendered more favorable to our country than it would otherwise have been. As soon as this was completed, and he was well assured that he should be quickly followed by a French fleet and army, he returned in a royal frigate to his adopted country. His arrival in Boston was hailed by public rejoicings, but he hurried away from the festive scenes prepared for him, that he might carry the news of his success with the French ministers, to his beloved friend, General Washington. He arrived at head-quarters in May 1779, having been absent from the army scarcely five months.'

Maria asked Henry what artificial memory he had for remembering that date ; to which he replied, 'Why, it is easy enough to recollect that Lafayette's *second* arrival in this country was *two* years after the first, and as I shall never forget the three sevens, 1777, I shall remember 1779.'

'He now received the command of a separate body of men, about two thousand in number ; they were light infantry, and partly clothed and equipped at his expense ; the officers were presented by him with swords, which he brought with him from France. This corps he disciplined and trained, according to his wishes ; they were

the pride of his heart, and much attached to him. I cannot now stop to tell you half he did for us whilst at the head of this division of the army, but when you read the history of your country you will find his name in almost every page. He was a long time employed in the army that kept the British shut up in New York, and in the winter of 1780 he performed a very difficult march into Virginia, and saved Richmond from falling into the hands of the enemy. His troops had been chiefly taken from eastern regiments; they had been absent from their homes a long time, their clothes were mere rags and tatters, and they were wholly destitute of hats and shoes; even the officers were without money or baggage. In this situation, it required all Lafayette's influence to keep them from deserting, and all his energy and disinterestedness to make their situation endurable. They passed through Baltimore on their way, and there he borrowed of the merchants, on his own credit, ten thousand dollars, which he laid out in clothing and equipments. The troops, who, on entering the city, were sullen and discontented, left it in good spirits, and with fresh zeal in the cause. A long and arduous campaign in Virginia followed, in which our young hero had to contend against superior numbers, commanded by the most experienced British generals. Lord Cornwallis, who was chief of the enemy's forces in Virginia, felt so sure of

being able to conquer Lafayette, that he wrote to a friend, in a letter which was intercepted, "*The boy cannot escape me.*" He did, however, escape all the snares laid for him by that able general ; and by the most skilful manœuvring, constant watchfulness, and rapid marches, he kept the English army in check, and avoided a general engagement, which would most likely have destroyed the continental army in Virginia, and terminated the war in favor of the British. At this critical time some of the light-infantry corps deserted ; and to put a stop to this, by appealing to the best feelings of his soldiers, Lafayette informed them that a difficult and dangerous enterprise would soon be undertaken, in which he depended on their services, and at the same time offering leave of absence to all who wished to go. This had the desired effect, for they had too much regard for their brave commander to leave him at such a moment. Soon afterwards he prevented a great collection of stores, belonging to the American army, from falling into the enemy's hands, by a very difficult and rapid march and by discovering and opening an old road that had been long out of use, but which was the shortest way to the place. So that when Lord Cornwallis thought himself sure of the prize, he was astonished to find "*the boy*" at the head of a body of troops, between him and the stores. Greatly disappointed, he retired with his army to Wil-

liamsburg. Our young hero followed at a prudent distance, and was soon after joined by other forces.

‘ Lord Cornwallis and his army were now driven from place to place through Virginia, till they were obliged to shut themselves up in Yorktown, where the fate of our country was at last decided.

‘ Elated by the success of all their movements, the officers under the young Marquis were very eager to attack the British at once and have the glory of conquering Cornwallis without any more assistance. But Lafayette showed, on this occasion, that true moderation which is a rarer and a greater virtue than bravery. Though urged by all the officers around him, to do that which would have been most agreeable to his own feelings, and though the French Admiral, whose fleet of thirty-eight vessels was in York river, offered him part of all their crews and the marines to assist him, he nobly maintained his resolution not to attack the English, until the allied army should arrive, under the command of Washington and Rochambeau. The young hero’s words on this occasion are still remembered. “ When great interests are at stake, I shall never prefer the gratification of self-love to the certainty of success.” Now if Lafayette had been striving after that kind of greatness for which Napoleon was so distinguished, he could not have resisted such an

opportunity of signalizing *himself*; if he had loved his own fame more than the American cause, he would have yielded to the entreaties of his officers and the French Admiral, and risked every thing in the hope of performing a brilliant military exploit. But in denying himself that gratification, and remaining firm to his duty, he showed a much nobler elevation of character, which is called *moral greatness*. He often proved himself as brave a soldier as ever Napoleon did, and he had this kind of self-command besides, which Napoleon never possessed. Now do you understand, Henry, these two different kinds of greatness, *greatness of action*, like Napoleon's, and *greatness of principle*, like Lafayette's?'

'Yes, father, I understand what you mean now; and if Napoleon could not manage his own mind, I would not give much for him, for that is the most difficult thing after all.'

'If it had not been for this self-command in Lafayette, we might not now be the free and happy people we are; for every thing depended on the siege of Yorktown, and it is not likely that it would have been successful without the whole allied army.'

'When General Washington arrived with his division, and the French General Rochambeau with another, they laid their plans with the French Admiral de Grasse; and with great caution and skill they so surrounded Yorktown,

that there was no possibility of the English escaping without a battle. They then began a regular siege, according to the rules of war ; and when you are old enough to understand it, you will be amused to learn the modern art of attacking a fortified place.

‘ When all was ready, General Washington fired the first gun, and then began a furious cannonade.’

‘ What ’s that, papa ? ’ asked Jane.

Henry told her, it was ‘ firing all the cannons they had as fast as they could, over and over again, roar, roar, roar.’

‘ Why, really, Henry,’ said his father, ‘ you seem to have some idea of it.’

‘ O, yes, sir,’ said Henry ; ‘ and I should like to hear all the particulars of the siege, if you will be so kind as to tell it.’

‘ I do not think it would interest your sisters to go into particulars, and you can read it in any of our histories ; so I shall only explain to you that part of the action, in which Lafayette was principally concerned. But first tell me, if any of you understand it, what a *redoubt* is ? ’

The children were all ignorant of the meaning of the word, and their father told them it was a temporary fortification, formed by high banks of earth, trenches, and walls, and sometimes by piles of trees cut down and sharpened at one end and placed with the point outward, which contrivance is called an *abatis*. Hav-

ing thus explained his terms, Mr. Moreton continued.

‘The British *outworks*, that is, all their places of defence outside the town, had been given up, except two large redoubts; these Washington resolved to take, and he ordered the cannon to be fired at the abatis, in order to make way for the troops to enter them.

‘While this was doing, Washington and Rochambeau with a few of their officers stood with calm intrepidity very near the redoubts, that they might the better judge of the effect of the cannonading on the enemy’s works. A young Frenchman, named Viomenil, was so impatient to begin the attack that he declared this cannonading was only a waste of powder. On hearing this, Rochambeau very quietly walked off alone, descended into the trench, and gently mounted the opposite side and stood within pistol shot of the enemy’s guns, whilst he examined the abatis; he then returned and told Viomenil, very coolly, that it was not sufficiently destroyed to admit the troops, without exposing them too long to the enemy’s fire.

‘At length the fire of the British began to slacken, and Washington thought the favorable moment was come for the assault. Lafayette, at the head of the American light infantry, was charged with the attack of one redoubt, and Viomenil, at the head of the French grenadiers, with that of the other. Lafayette thought that

the best way to take a place defended by experienced troops, with young soldiers, was to trust to a bold and rapid attack ; so he had all the muskets of his division discharged, that they might trust only to their bayonets, formed it in a close column, led it himself, sword in hand, at full speed across the trench and over the abatis, and made himself master of the redoubt with the loss of a very few men.'

' Well done, Lafayette ! ' exclaimed Henry, clapping his hands. ' What became of the other Frenchman ; did he do as well ? '

' He took his redoubt in a different manner ; and though it showed the greatest coolness, bravery, and discipline, it cost many more lives. He waited, at the head of his grenadiers, under the most terrible fire, while a path was deliberately made for them across the abatis. While this was doing, an aid arrived from Lafayette, to tell him he was in his redoubt, and to ask where *he* was. " Tell him," said Vio-menil, " that I am not yet in mine, but will be there in five minutes ; " and sure enough, so he was ; in five minutes his troops entered the redoubt, by beat of drum, and in as good order, as if they had been on parade, instead of facing an enemy.

' After these two redoubts were taken, a complete line of batteries and entrenchments was made round the town, from which our cannon made great destruction among the buildings.



In this desperate situation, Lord Cornwallis laid a very bold plan, and made a last effort to save his army. He sent three hundred picked men to the attack of the American redoubts, in the night, and whilst their attention was thus occupied, he meant to cross the river with the rest of his army, attack the troops at Gloucester, and fight his way to New York by land. The boats that were to carry them across were all in readiness, and part of his troops were already landed on the other side of the river, when a violent tempest arose very suddenly and obliged him to give up the plan. He had only time to get his troops back to Yorktown before daylight came to betray his secret.'

'Poor Lord Cornwallis!' said Maria, 'how disappointed he must have been. I declare, I cannot help feeling sorry for him, though he was our enemy.'

'Certainly,' said her father, 'we ought to feel for him, for he was a brave and skilful general, serving his country in a manner that he thought right; and his suffering must have been great when he gave up all hope of escape, and demanded a *parley* with the Americans;—that means that both sides should stop fighting whilst the leaders consulted together, and considered on what conditions the British general should give up himself and his army prisoners of war. An American and a French officer were sent to confer with Cornwallis and they

were two days settling the terms of his surrender. At last every thing was agreed upon, and it was settled that they should march out with shouldered arms, their flags rolled up, and their drums beating an English or German march ; and that they should *ground* their arms, that is, lay them down, on a platform before the allied armies. General Lincoln, who had surrendered to a British army at Charlestown, was appointed to receive the arms. The American and French forces were drawn up to receive the British, in two lines, the Americans on the right and the French on the left. At the end of both lines were all the officers of high rank ; and the commander-in-chief, distinguished for his height and noble bearing, was sufficiently conspicuous to have prevented the mistake that occurred. Lord Cornwallis either was, or pretended to be, too ill to appear ; so he was represented by General O'Hara, and that officer, when he advanced to surrender up his sword in token of submission, offered it to the French General Rochambeau, who refused it, saying he was only an *auxiliary*,\* and pointed out Washington as the proper person to receive it. O'Hara appeared vexed, though his generous conqueror received him in the most unassuming manner.

‘Those who witnessed this scene say it was

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\* One who helps another.

evident that the British were particularly mortified at being obliged to lay down their arms before Americans, whom they considered as no better than rebels ; and they showed their feelings by keeping their faces turned as much as possible towards the French line. Lafayette perceived this ; and recollecting that the British had always marched their prisoners to the tune of Yankee Doodle, which was the air of a song made to ridicule the Americans at the beginning of the war, he ordered the music of the light infantry to strike up that tune. This joke was so hard to bear, that it is said some of the Englishmen broke their muskets in a rage, as they threw them down on the platform, before General Lincoln.

‘ The day after this *capitalation*, as it is called, Lord Cornwallis was surrounded by the allied generals who went to see him, and he showed the same dislike to the Americans by always preferring the French. He even told Lafayette that he the more willingly surrendered, because the character of the French assured him of honorable treatment for him and his army. But Lafayette, who was too much of an American to like this, made him a reply which prevented Lord Cornwallis from saying any thing more on the subject. You must know that some time before this, another English army, under General Burgoyne, was taken captive ; so Lafayette said “ What, has your Lordship so soon

forgotten that we *Americans* are also humane to captive armies?"'

'That was a good hit,' said Henry; 'now, Maria, do you pity that proud Englishman?'

'Not quite so much as I did before but still I think his was a very trying situation,' replied Maria.

'So it certainly was,' said her father; 'and I never look at the picture of the surrender of Cornwallis's army, without feeling very much for general O'Hara.'

'What became of all these prisoners?' asked Henry; 'it must have taken a fine parcel of men to guard them.'

'Not when they were disarmed,' said his father. 'They were dispersed in small companies under the care of their own officers, in different parts of the country, to wait the end of the contest.'

'Why, I thought,' said Henry, 'that the battle of Yorktown was the end.'

'Not quite. The British were never again so powerful; but they were not entirely subdued for nearly a year.

'The capture of this formidable army spread joy and exultation throughout the country. Congress returned thanks to all concerned, and made presents, and erected a marble column at Yorktown; and Washington received addresses of affectionate congratulation from every part of the Union.

now know more of Lafayette than you do of Washington. But if I was giving you the life of that best of men, you would soon change your mind. Great and good as Lafayette is, he always looked up to Washington as to a superior being ; and much as we are indebted to this generous friend, we are under still greater obligations to Washington, who so justly deserves to be called the Father of his Country. I wish you to recollect, children, that in the account I have now given you of a few of the events in our revolutionary war, I have only dwelt upon those in which Lafayette was concerned ; but there are a great many more that he had nothing to do with, which show the wonderful prudence and wisdom of Washington, and do honor to numerous other heroes, that I have not even named.'

'Do you mean to say then that Lafayette was not a greater man than many of our revolutionary officers?' asked Henry, in a tone of disappointment.

'No, my boy, I do not mean to say that either ; his services were very distinguished ; his coming to this country, and his devoting himself and his fortune to the support of our cause, stand alone in history. It is such a thing as has never been heard of, before or since. And what he did in America is only a very small part of his eventful life. He has been the hero of three revolutions, and has

maintained his principles through more remarkable extremes of glory and of suffering than any man I ever read of. In the halls of princes, and in the dungeons of a prison, he has proved himself incapable of uttering a word against his principles, though that word would have been sufficient to open the way to new honors, or save him from a lingering death.'

'Why, papa! you surprise me,' said Maria; 'I had no idea that Lafayette's life was so remarkable after he left America; I thought the most interesting part was told.'

'And so did I,' said Henry; 'I thought the next thing would be his visit to this country, and then the little fight they had in Paris the other day, and that that would be all.'

'The most remarkable part is yet to come, children; but there sits your mother at the tea tray, patiently waiting for us to join her.'

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### THIRD EVENING.

'Now, papa, let us hear more of the remarkable events in Lafayette's life,' said Maria, as she drew her chair close to her father's. 'What was the first thing he did after helping us to settle our affairs.'

'He accepted the pressing invitations which

he received from all parts of the country, but more particularly from his friend Washington, and again crossed the ocean, in 1784, to witness the prosperity and happiness which he had helped us to secure. How it must have rejoiced his benevolent heart, to see this land cleared of foreign troops, relieved from all the burdens imposed on it by England, and enjoying the blessings of peace; to find the American soldiers returned to their employments at home, and every state governed by good and wholesome laws, made by men, whom the people chose to rule over them. He staid but a few months in America. In that time he visited all the chief cities, and was every where received with enthusiasm and delight; but the peculiar pleasure of this visit must have been the society of Washington, which he enjoyed at Mount Vernon.

‘How they, who had shared the dangers and anxieties of the revolution, must have delighted in witnessing together the happy fruits of their labors! What excellent *talks* they must have had about the stormy past, the tranquil present, and the bright future, of their beloved country. These two heroes parted, never to meet again in this world; but the recollection of those hours, spent in the society of Washington, has always been dear to the heart of Lafayette. Before his departure he received a new and most distinguished honor. Con-

gress appointed a deputation, consisting of one member from each state, to wait upon him in the name of the whole country, and take leave of him with every expression of cordial regard. A letter was also addressed by Congress to the French king, Louis the Sixteenth, expressing their high sense of the zeal, talents, and meritorious services of the Marquis de Lafayette, and recommending him to the favor and patronage of his majesty. A more respectful compliment could not have been paid him. He now left America for the third time, and returned to enjoy his high reputation, in the bosom of his own family, and in a large circle of literary friends.

‘ He was received by the king with the greatest favor, smiled upon by the beautiful queen, and caressed by the courtiers. In the course of the following year he made a tour through various parts of Germany and Prussia, and was received with distinction at all the different courts. Though known all over Europe, as the avowed friend of liberty, he was admitted to the intimacy of absolute kings and princes; and the same man who had fought with our raw militia men, now rode by the side of Frederick the Great of Prussia, and witnessed the review of the most highly disciplined troops in the world.

‘ On Lafayette’s return to his native country, he found the minds of men very much occu-



pied with plans for doing away some of the abuses of the government, and improving the condition of the people. The example of America made a great many persons in other countries think about freedom, and wish that they could govern themselves, and choose their own rulers, instead of submitting to the will of one man, as those do who live under absolute monarchs. The French, more especially, who had taken such a deep interest in our struggle, and had personally assisted us in throwing off the control of England, began to think seriously of getting rid of despotic government at home.'

Jane asked what was the meaning of a *despotic* government; her father told her it was one of *absolute power*. But that did not explain it sufficiently; so Mr. Moreton added, 'It is power exercised over us, by the mere will of another; as when a king, for instance, governs his people only according to his own pleasure. In the different kingdoms of Europe, there are different degrees of despotism. France, at that time, had a very despotic government, and many wise and good men were desirous of altering it, so as to relieve the people from grievous burdens, and make them less dependent upon the will of the sovereign. Lafayette's advice was eagerly sought by all the friends of freedom. Though he was connected with most of the powerful nobles of France, was a

favorite with the king and royal family, and might have shared in the absolute power of the sovereign, he continued true to his principles, using all his influence to relieve the oppressed, improve the laws, and lessen the power of the king and his ministers.

‘The laws of France were very severe upon all who professed any other religion than the Roman Catholic, and Lafayette made every exertion to get those laws altered, but in vain. He was the first Frenchman who raised his voice against slavery in the French West India Islands; and he not only used all his influence with the king and his ministers, to get laws made for the gradual emancipation of the negroes there, but he spent large sums of his own money in buying slaves and having them educated, for the purpose of setting them at liberty. That was acting out his principles, and making sacrifices for the good of others, which very few would have done; particularly as the West Indies were a great way off, and the misery of the slaves was not seen or felt in France.’

‘That was, indeed, truly benevolent,’ said Mrs. Moreton; ‘and I hope his advice was taken, and that his freed negroes did credit to his exertions.’

‘No, it was not; nothing was then done for the slaves; and it is a remarkable fact, that a few years after, when a party of violent

and wicked men, called *Jacobins*, ruled France, and pretended to be greater friends of freedom than Lafayette was, they seized upon those very negroes whom he was educating, and sold them back again into slavery.'

'Poor creatures !' said Jane ; ' how disappointed they must have been ! '

'What right had they to sell another man's property ?' exclaimed Henry.

'They had no right at all ; but they had the power, and they did not hesitate to employ it. You must remember that this happened long after the time I am now speaking of, when the revolution in France was at its height ; those troubles had not yet begun, and Lafayette was only advising the ministers to make improvements. They were however averse to all change, and would not listen to any of his plans.

'King Louis the Sixteenth, was at this time in great want of money to pay the expenses of the nation, and the people were so dissatisfied with his government, that he found it very difficult to get any from them ; so he thought to aid his cause by calling a meeting of his nobles, or as the French people say, *an Assembly of the Notables*. Lafayette was a member of that assembly, and powerfully did he speak in it against the bad laws that the people were suffering under ; his speeches convinced many of the need there was of a reform ; and instead

of voting for taxes to supply the king's wants, they spent their time in trying to improve the government, and recommending alterations in the laws.'

'Why,' said Maria, 'did not the king like to have his laws made better and his subjects made happy? Was he a wicked, cruel man?'

'Not at all,' replied her father; 'Louis the Sixteenth was an amiable man; but he had been badly educated. He had been taught to think that he had a right to rule the French people by his will alone, and that they had no right to resist him. He believed it best for the laws to remain as they were, and for him to have all the power that the other kings of France had always had. He did not understand that his subjects had grown wiser, and would no longer submit to the unjust laws made in former times. Louis never perceived, that, when his soldiers were fighting for the Americans, they were learning of them how to resist tyranny at home. If he had considered what it would lead to, it is probable that he never would have consented to help our country. One great motive for lending us his troops was, no doubt, to annoy the British, of whose increase of power and territory he was jealous.'

'If that was what he did it for,' said Henry, 'I think he was served exactly right, and I am glad his *mounseers* learnt of us how to put down kings and tyrants.'

‘ Ah,’ said Mr. Moreton with a sigh, ‘ the French learned a lesson here which they were not able to put in practice at home. Many had sense enough to perceive that they were badly governed, but they had not wisdom enough to govern themselves, and therefore their revolution did not end as happily as ours. Had all the ruling men in France been as wise and as disinterested as Lafayette, they might have enjoyed peace and prosperity under a limited monarchy, which was probably the best form of government for them ; but unprincipled and ambitious men got all the power into their hands, and used it far worse than the king had done. But I must not anticipate what you will hear by and by. Can any of you tell me where I left off in the history of Lafayette ? ’

Jane looked puzzled ; but Henry said, ‘ I remember, father ; we left Lafayette making grand speeches about liberty in that meeting of great folks which the French call —— ’ ‘ Notables,’ said Maria.

‘ Well then, you must know that at that time any body in France was liable to be taken up and imprisoned for life, without ever being brought to trial and proved guilty, or ever knowing what offence he had committed. An order from the king, called a *lettre de cachet*, was sufficient to remove any one from his own fire-side and put him in a dungeon. These orders were easily obtained, and thousands of

innocent people were thus sent into hopeless captivity. An immense jail, called the Bastille, was fitted up with cells for these unhappy prisoners. One of the first propositions therefore, made by Lafayette in the assembly of the Notables, was, to abolish *lettres de cachet*. Another was, that those who were suffering for holding religious opinions different from the Catholic, should be relieved from persecution, and allowed to live in peace. But what was considered bolder than all, he proposed to call a meeting of the representatives of the people ; a thing which had not been known in France for more than a hundred years, and which quite alarmed the king's brother who was present.

‘The king finding that his assembly did nothing but find fault with his government, and that he was not likely to get any money through their means, dismissed them before any of Lafayette's propositions were determined upon.’

‘And so they broke up without doing any thing!’ said Henry ; ‘I think they were well named *not-ables*.’ When the laugh was over which this pun occasioned, Mr. Moreton went on.

‘Two years afterwards, the king, who was still in great distress for money, agreed to the wishes of his ministers and called a meeting of the States General, which is the name given in France to an assembly composed of representa-

tives from the nobles, the clergy, and the common people. Lafayette was a member of that assembly. It met at Versailles, the residence of the royal family, seventeen miles from Paris, and soon became a very powerful body, under the name of the National Assembly. Taking warning by the poor *Not-ables*, they bound themselves by an oath to continue their sittings until a Constitution should be formed, that is, a set of rules for the government of the country. Lafayette was one of the most distinguished members of this assembly. He was always in favor of a limited monarchy, for he knew the French were not sufficiently enlightened to become republicans; he labored faithfully for the good of the king and the people, and did all in his power to moderate violent spirits and get every thing settled peaceably.

‘ Whilst they were deliberating at Versailles, the populace of Paris did a most extraordinary and unexpected act of violence. They suddenly resolved to pull down, by main force, the great prison I told you of before, called the Bastille, which stood in the midst of Paris. It was a strongly fortified castle secured by a deep *moat*, or ditch, all round it, and guarded by the king’s soldiers. In former reigns its solitary cells and dungeons had been filled with unfortunate persons; but when Louis the Sixteenth came to the throne, he gave a great many prisoners their liberty, and

very few had been put in since. But the people of Paris hated the sight of it, and were so determined to destroy it, that nothing could resist them. Thousands of respectable citizens, armed and equipped with astonishing rapidity, formed themselves into companies of National Guards, as they were called; others seized whatever weapons they could find, and joined in the work of destruction. The cannon of that fortress roared in vain; the thick walls and massive doors could not keep out a hundred thousand resolute men, all actuated with one spirit; and in a few hours the place was taken, its strong towers were reduced to ruins, the prisoners set at liberty, and the people left in quiet possession of that dreaded prison. Among the prisoners who came out of the Bastille, at that time, was one old, grey-headed man, who had been confined alone, in a dark dungeon, for thirty-five years; his eyes could not bear the light, he had lost all knowledge of the world and of his friends. As he had no home, nowhere to go, he begged to be allowed to return to his dungeon; and when that was refused, he begged the people to kill him for he knew not where to go, or what to do. He was cheered by the crowd, and was promised that the nation would take care of him.'

'I should think any one would be glad to get out of a dungeon,' said Maria, 'even if they had to beg their bread.'



‘One would think so, to be sure, and many prisoners were released who were rejoiced at gaining their liberty ; but this old man had been in confinement so long, that he felt alone in the world, and unable to take care of himself.’

Mrs. Moreton observed ‘that it was well for us that our good Creator has so formed us, that we become more and more reconciled to the greatest privations ; and it was because the poor man had learned to bear his imprisonment so well, that he was rendered unfit to leave it.’

‘I hope he was taken care of,’ said Jane ; ‘do you know what become of him ?’

‘No, I do not ; but I dare say he did not live very long after such a change. The Bastille was entirely destroyed ; and the man who was afterwards employed to see to the removal of the rubbish, had eighty-three models of the prison made out of the stones and bricks, and sent one to each of the eighty-three departments of the kingdom ; as a trophy, I suppose, of what the Parisians had done against tyranny.’

‘The principal key to this prison was presented to Lafayette ; he gave it to Washington, and it now hangs, in a glass case, in the hall at Mount Vernon ; I saw it the last time I was there.’

‘What, the real key of the Bastille, that locked up those poor creatures ! what does it look like, father ?’ said Henry.

‘It looks like a very rough, ill-shaped, rusty old key, with a solid piece of iron across the end, instead of a bow, to take hold of.

‘One thing more I must tell you about the Bastille, and then I shall have done with that subject. The National Guards of Paris presented Lafayette with a sword, made out of the iron fetters that had been used to chain the prisoners to the walls of their dungeons.

‘Two days after the destruction of the Bastille, Lafayette was appointed Commander-in-chief of the National Guards of Paris; and, as this was a new and important office, I must tell you something about these Guards. They were somewhat like our militia. They were composed at first of the respectable citizens of Paris, armed and dressed in uniform; trained and formed into companies, that they might always be ready to defend their country against foreign enemies, and also to uphold the laws and maintain order, in case a part of the people should disturb the peace of the rest, and refuse to obey the rules made for the good of the whole. As the changes, that were making in the government, met with great opposition from many powerful and violent men, the National Guards were kept constantly on duty, and had very difficult and painful tasks to perform, in quieting disorderly mobs and preventing riot and confusion.

‘No one in all France was so eminently qual-

ified to command them, at such times, as the good citizen, the wise legislator, and the brave soldier, Lafayette. He accepted the command, though he knew what a dangerous and difficult post it must be ; and, true to his principles and his love of justice, he declared to the magistrates of Paris, that he would not arrest any body unless there was a law made for giving them a fair and a public trial. Accordingly the National Assembly immediately made laws to that effect, and provided in the new Constitution for introducing into France the same kind of trial by jury that we have in our country. Lafayette was employed to make arrangements for forming companies of National Guards all over France, which was a new thing to them.'

'Why, how could that be?' said Henry ; 'I thought the king had plenty of soldiers before that.'

'Yes,' replied Mr. Moreton, 'the king had soldiers, but they were very different from militia or National Guards ; they were not the peaceable inhabitants of the country, who only left their various occupations to train occasionally, or only turned out when needed to keep order, and then returned to their families and honest trades again ; the king's soldiers were paid, all the year, for being soldiers and nothing else. Their only business was fighting and training ; and as long as they were paid, they

did not care whom they fought against. They were called a *standing army*, and the king always expected them to support his authority. They were paid by the king for the very purpose of keeping his subjects under his absolute power ; as all the despotic monarchs of Europe have standing armies to keep the people in awe, and make them submit to the will of the sovereign, whatever it may be.

‘When Lafayette had established the new system of National Guards he was offered the command of the whole, those in the provinces as well as in Paris ; but he very wisely thought that such a power ought never to be put in the hands of one man, and, true to his principles, he refused it.

‘But he could have used it for the good of the people,’ said Maria ; ‘and if he meant to use it well, he might certainly have accepted it.’

‘True *he* would have used it well ; but if the office were once created, it would in time pass into other hands ; and if a selfish and ambitious man held it, it might be turned against the general good ; he therefore showed his wisdom, and his disinterestedness, by refusing to be Generalissimo of the National Guards.

‘As commander-in-chief of those in Paris he had a very anxious and painful office. The friends of liberty were growing every day more violent and unreasonable, and yet they considered him as their leader ; whilst the king and

his partisans expected him to defend them. He was placed in a most trying situation between these opposite parties, and yet he always acted according to just principles, and only took side with either, so far as he thought it was in the right. It is said of Lafayette, by one of the numerous writers on the Revolution, "He has never committed an error in the most embarrassing circumstances, nor failed to make the most of every favorable occasion. He has that calm intrepidity which is never disconcerted by tumult, but on the contrary has power to quiet it." I will now give you a very remarkable instance of Lafayette's presence of mind and "calm intrepidity."

‘Crowds of ignorant and wicked people were making disturbances in and about the city of Paris; there was a scarcity of bread, and the mob had strangely connected the want of bread with the royal family's living at Versailles. The king had changed his mind so often, sometimes agreeing to a thing and then again refusing his consent, that he had lost the confidence of the people; and the queen was become an object of general hatred. It is very difficult to give you any idea of the state of things in Paris at that time; and yet, without knowing something about it, you cannot understand the admirable conduct of Lafayette. To preserve the confidence of an ignorant multitude, and yet keep them from any acts of

violence, was his difficult task. It might be compared to measuring out gun-powder amidst a shower of sparks, and yet keeping it from exploding.

‘The mob of Paris, to show their opposition to the white flag, which was the royal ensign, put cockades of red and blue ribbon in their hats. Lafayette saw that this was a *spark* that would easily *explode* into some act of violence towards the king ; so, to prevent it, he joined a party of the most violent ; and having added to the blue and red cockade a bow of white ribbon also, he placed it in his own hat, amidst the acclamations of the multitude, saying, as he did it, that “the tri-colored cockade would go round the world.”’

‘What did he mean by that ?’ asked Henry.

‘He meant that it would be used by those who were struggling for freedom in other countries ; and his prediction has been half fulfilled already, for it has been the signal of freedom in Spain, Naples, part of South America, and Greece.

‘The instance I have just given you of Lafayette’s presence of mind, and of his influence over the mob, was not the one I was thinking of, when I began. His conduct at Versailles was more remarkable still ; but we must leave that for tomorrow evening, for tea is ready.’

‘O never mind the tea,’ said Henry ; ‘do tell us about Lafayette at Versailles.’ His

father had already taken his place at the table, and Henry reluctantly followed ; but Maria reconciled him to leaving off then by reminding him of their notes, and of the difficulty of remembering all they had already heard.

After tea, they went busily to work, and, with a little assistance from their mother, made out their notes pretty well. Maria remembered the most about Lafayette's buying the slaves to make them free, Henry could tell all about the taking of the Bastille, and Jane reminded them of what the old man said ; but for the account of the National Guards, and Lafayette's putting the tri-colored cockade in his hat, they were obliged to apply to their mother. Jane did not know exactly what a cockade meant, till she was told that it was a name for bows of ribbon worn in the hat.

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#### FOURTH EVENING.

‘ Now for Lafayette at Versailles ! ’ said Henry, as they all drew round their father ; ‘ I am glad you did not tell it last evening, for we found it hard enough to recollect all about the Notables, and the States General, and the National Assembly. Maria said she should not have remembered the word *Notables* at all, if it had not been for my pun.’

‘Indeed!’ said Mr. Moreton; ‘it is seldom a pun is of so much use. Could any of you remember how many models were made of the Bastille?’ They had all forgotten to put that down; but Henry, who had a very good memory for numbers, remembered it was eighty-three. ‘It is well to recollect that,’ said Mr. Moreton, ‘because it is the number of Departments that France was divided into.’ Henry was all impatience for his father to begin, but Mr. Moreton waited till his wife had done moving about the room, and had taken her knitting-work and sat down by the fire; then he continued his narrative in the following words.

‘The people of Paris, as I told you before, were very much dissatisfied with the royal family’s living at Versailles, and with the National Assembly’s sitting there; and they were at last resolved on bringing the king by force to Paris.

‘A large mob, composed of the most ignorant and degraded men and women, assembled in great numbers early in the morning, shouting, “Bread, bread! to Versailles! to Versailles!” As their numbers increased, they broke open a magazine of arms, and procured a supply of muskets and a few cannon; they were soon joined by a rabble, armed with pikes, clubs, scythes, and whatever they could get. The multitude kept increasing, and the real scarcity of bread in the city made them desperate.



‘The National Guards, with Lafayette at their head, were called out to restrain the mob and prevent excesses ; but he soon found his men were too much disposed to join those they were intended to control. They refused to act against women, who, they said, were starving ; and the utmost Lafayette could do was to keep them from going with the mob to Versailles, and acting against the king. Four hours after that savage multitude had set off for Versailles, Lafayette received orders, from the proper authorities, to follow with the National Guards ; he then marched off in good order. All day the road to Versailles was thronged with ferocious men and women ; and it required Lafayette’s utmost exertions on the way, to calm the soldiers and keep them from joining the mob. At ten o’clock they arrived, and found the place filled with wretched creatures, drinking and carousing, fighting with all who opposed them, and uttering threats against the king and royal family. The arrival of Lafayette quieted them for a while. He had an interview with the king, and the royal family pressed round him as if they looked to him alone for safety. Nothing could be more difficult than his situation ; he had to protect the king with troops disposed to act against him, and only restrained by a regard for their commander.

‘Lafayette proposed some measures of safety, which the king refused to comply with ; his

majesty chose to depend entirely on his own Body Guards for the safety of his person, and therefore Lafayette had charge only of some of the outer premises.

‘Not expecting any violent acts that night, the number of the Body Guards was not even increased ; and at a late hour the royal household went to bed, and to sleep, notwithstanding that enraged multitude were carousing near the palace.

‘When all within had been still some time, a part of the mob made their way into the palace, by a small back entrance ; and, led by some one who was acquainted with the interior, reached the door of the queen’s apartment unperceived. Two of her guards were killed on the spot, and she only escaped with her life by flying, almost naked, through a closet that communicated with the king’s chamber. The assassins entered her room and stabbed the bed clothes, believing she was under them.

‘The noise of the assault now brought Lafayette to the place, and with some of his soldiers, he protected the royal family and their guards from the attacks of the mob. He soon succeeded in clearing the apartments of the rioters ; but they filled the marble court below, uttering hideous cries and dreadful threats, and calling on the king to go with them to Paris, in such tones as showed they were resolved to be obeyed. But the king continued undeoid-

ed till day-light, when he consented to go with them.

‘A balcony, belonging to the royal apartments, over-looked the court, in which the populace were raging, and they called for the queen to show herself upon it.

‘To refuse might exasperate them and cause them to commit deeds of violence, and to go was at the risk of her life. In this dreadful crisis, she was saved, and the people calmed, by Lafayette’s presence of mind, and his influence over the mob.

‘He went with the queen to the balcony ; the tumult and cries of the croud made it impossible for any voice to be heard ; it was therefore necessary to do something that all could see and understand ; so, turning towards her majesty, he most respectfully raised her hand to his lips and kissed it. Astonishment silenced that vast multitude for a moment ; but as they saw by that act, that their favorite leader was friendly to the queen, their feelings were immediately changed ; the muskets that had been pointed at her were withdrawn, and the air rang with cries of “ Long live the Queen ! long live the General ! ” ’

‘What an escape ! ’ said Maria. ‘How frightened the poor queen must have been ! ’

‘I never should have thought,’ said Henry, ‘of such a foolish thing as kissing a woman’s hand doing any good.’

‘ You do not perhaps know, my son, that kissing the hand is a very common salutation of respect in Europe, particularly from subjects to their sovereigns, and was so much in use at that time, in France, that it did not seem foolish to any one. Lafayette’s doing it then showed the people how he regarded the queen, and they liked him too well to injure any one whom he respected. Without that admirable firmness and presence of mind in Lafayette, it is most likely the queen’s life would have been taken, either then, upon the balcony, or afterwards, on the road to Paris.

‘ After this change in the feelings of the mob, Lafayette thought the queen might venture to accompany the king to Paris, as he had consented to go there with the multitude. So she took her little son with her, and when she heard the howling multitude, who surrounded the carriage with songs of triumph, utter any shouts against herself, she held the child up to the window as a protection ; for the people were, at that time, friendly to the young prince.

‘ We can have very little idea, in this happy country, of what a furious mob is, in Europe ; for we have no class of people so ignorant and so degraded as the wretched creatures that abound there, and are easily excited to the worst deeds. This Paris mob was composed of the very lowest of the low, and it was impossible for Lafayette and his soldiers to prevent their

crowding round the royal carriage, uttering cries of violence, and carrying before them, raised on pikes, the heads of the queen's Body Guards that they had murdered. These ignorant wretches seemed to think, that by carrying the king to Paris, they should get bread to eat; so one of their coarse jokes, on the royal personages, was singing out, "We bring you the baker, and his wife, and the little apprentice."

'How foolish! how unreasonable they were!' exclaimed Henry and Maria at the same moment. 'Poor little apprentice!' said Jane, 'I dare say he was dreadfully frightened at the sight of those bloody heads held up before him.'

'Some of the most furious of this mob were women. It is true, Maria, though you look so much surprised. Wicked women often behave worse than wicked men. The Paris fish-women were remarkable for their ignorance and violence; several hundred of them went to Versailles, on this occasion; and when returning, some, half-drunk, rode astride on the cannon; others were on horseback, with the king's guards, whom they insulted and ill treated by the way. The pikes and muskets of this immense cavalcade were ornamented with boughs of oak, and the women carried long poplar branches in their hands, which made it look from a distance like a moving grove, and showed that they considered it a triumph over the royal

family, to bring them thus to Paris. After six hours of dreadful suffering to the king and queen, they arrived safely in Paris. Louis was carried to the City Hall, where he was kindly received by the mayor, and then he was conducted to the palace of the Tuileries, the ancient residence of the kings of France. The mob dispersed without doing any farther violence at that time; but this account will give you some little idea of what a trying situation Lafayette's was, and what a dreadful thing a furious mob is.'

'Indeed it is,' said Maria; 'I am glad we have no such people to make a mob of in this country.'

'How do you know we have not?' said Henry.

'Why I am sure,' replied Maria, 'we have no women in America who would ride upon a cannon, or run screaming and hallooing by the side of a carriage.'

'Certainly not,' continued her father; 'the fish-women and market-women, who went to Versailles, were persons of the worst character possible; their hearts were hardened by wickedness; they had no education, they lived among bad men, and were driven to desperation by want of food. As long as every child in America has the advantage of a good education, I trust we shall have no such men and women as made that mob.'

‘ After witnessing such outrages as these I have described to you, Lafayette might well dread the confusion and bloodshed that was likely to come, if the government were not speedily settled, and the laws put in execution, to maintain good order ; he therefore urged the National Assembly to complete the Constitution, and have it agreed to by the king and the nation, as soon as possible.

‘ Meanwhile, he used every exertion to preserve peace and good order in Paris. On one occasion, a poor baker who could not afford to sell his bread cheap, when he paid an enormous price for the flour, was seized by the populace and hanged ; they then paraded the streets, with his bloody head stuck on a pike. Lafayette was resolved to show them that the law was stronger than their wills. He appeared at the head of a detachment of National Guards, attacked and dispersed the mob, arrested the man who was carrying the head, and had him tried and executed just as a murderer would be, in quiet times, when there was no revolution. This awed the mob of Paris, and kept it in better order for a while.

‘ At another time, he found a tumultuous collection of people in the act of murdering a man who had stolen a bag of corn ; he went alone into the midst of them and cried out, “ I cannot believe that all the citizens I see here are murderers ; show me the man who advised this

dreadful deed." The guilty person was pointed out, and he had him immediately seized, and carried to a neighbouring prison, from the walls of which he harangued the populace, reproaching them for their excesses, and asking them, if, because they had found a thief, they wished to become assassins. He ended by assuring them that all such disorderly proceedings should be stopped, and that he would shed the last drop of his blood to support the laws. The populace was much affected by his eloquence, and, though so severely reprimanded by him, they made the air resound with cries of "Long live Lafayette!"

'A great many such stories are told of this brave and wise man, but these are sufficient to show you what constant exertions he made to save his country from the horrors of civil war. It is sad to think that his labors were in vain.'

Jane looked as if she had a question to ask, and therefore Mr. Moreton stopped; she then inquired what was meant by *civil* war, and was told that war was so called when the inhabitants of the same country fought against each other; and Henry added, by way of comment, that 'the most uncivil of all doings was called civil war.' That led his father to explain the word *civil*, which has a great many meanings, but is used in this sense to distinguish wars between members of the same community from wars with foreign foes.



‘ About this time there was a party of violent men in Paris, called Jacobins, who wished to destroy the king’s power entirely, and to do a great many extravagant things. These men Lafayette steadily opposed, though it was often at the risk of his liberty and life. Because he would not go all lengths with them, they thought he favored royalty and nobility too much ; but (as a proof to the contrary) when one of them suddenly proposed a law for abolishing all titles, Lafayette agreed to it at once, and from that time gave up his rank as Marquis, and has never assumed it since.

‘ At this period of the French Revolution, Lafayette possessed more power than any other man in France ; and if he had been selfish and ambitious, he might have become the ruler of the whole nation. But he has shown in all his life, that he preferred the happiness of serving others to that of serving himself ; and, true to his high principles and pure conscience, he never gave way to the temptations which his great popularity offered him.

‘ His power over the National Assembly, his influence over the king, his ability to rule all the National Guards of France, or to quiet the most riotous mob, did not make him so truly a great man, as the power he had over himself, and the ability to do the right thing in the most difficult and embarrassing situation. Now you may understand, Henry, why I think Lafayette a greater man than Bonaparte.’

Henry nodded his head, and his father went on.

‘It requires more real courage to oppose a furious mob, than to lead a great army to battle ; more presence of mind, to save a lady’s life by kissing her hand, than to save an army by military skill ; and more true greatness of soul, to refuse power, than to possess one’s self of it.

‘At last the National Assembly completed their work of making a Constitution which satisfied all parties, and which the king consented to accept and swear to maintain.

‘As the taking of the Bastille on the 14th of July, 1789, was the most remarkable and the most general act of the people, in favor of a revolution, it was agreed that the Constitution should be adopted on the very day twelve-month that that prison was destroyed. Vast preparations were accordingly made for the solemn ceremony. A large open space behind the Military Academy, called the *Champ de Mars*, which means the *Field of Mars*, was fixed upon for the place of its celebration. Around this, seats were to be made, one above another, to the height of forty rows. For this purpose, an immense bank of earth was raised, and formed on the inside like a flight of steps. On these steps, wooden benches were placed. The labor was very great of carrying earth enough to surround such a large field, and raise the seats so high ; but the people

were all so deeply interested in the occasion, and hoped so much from the new Constitution, that persons of both sexes and all ranks, from dukes and duchesses, bishops and representatives, to the poorest beggars, worked together at shovelling the earth, and forming the seats around the Field of Mars. At one end three triumphal arches were erected, and richly adorned with figures and emblems suitable to the occasion. Under these, the processions were to enter. At the opposite end was a handsome pavilion, or covered gallery, hung with striped cloth of the three national colors, blue, red, and white, for the accommodation of the king, queen, and royal family, and their attendants, also the national assembly and other important persons. In the middle of the open space, was a platform raised very high, with steps up to it on every side; and on that was placed a sort of table, called an altar which is necessary to the performance of the Roman Catholic Church services. This altar had mottoes and ornaments on it; but the words which could be seen the farthest off were, *The nation, the law, and the king*. A new and level road was made, and a bridge placed upon boats across the river Seine, for the procession to pass over to the *Champ de Mars*.

‘ All these grand preparations were the work of about twenty days, so actively did the people labor in the good cause.

At last the important day arrived. Lafayette, the noble and pure-hearted patriot, the friend of the people, and the great champion of liberty, was appointed to represent the French Nation, to take the oath of obedience to the new Constitution, and of fidelity to the nation, the law, and the king. No greater honor could have been conferred on him, and no one in all France more richly deserved it. The *Champ de Mars* was filled with many thousand people, who assembled and took their places in perfect order. The king, queen, and royal family were received with acclamations. The Roman Catholic priests, dressed in their white robes, with scarfs of tri-colored ribbon thrown over them, stood round the altar, the steps of which were covered with National Guards. High Mass, which is the church service of the Catholics, was performed; after which Lafayette appeared standing beside the altar. Every eye was fixed upon him, every heart was filled with emotion, and his own must have throbbed high with delightful sensations. He pronounced the oath; in an instant every sword was drawn, every arm lifted, as a sign that all united in it. The king then took nearly the same oath, and so did the President of the National Assembly; and the words were repeated by thousands of voices, while the queen raised her little son in her arms to show him to the people and the army. A few moments of silence fol-

lowed this solemn ceremony, and then the air was filled with shouts and acclamations, not only from the vast multitude within the *Champ de Mars*, but from the thousands that stood on the roofs of buildings, and on the hills that commanded a view of it. Just then, the sun burst forth from behind the clouds that had obscured it all the morning, and shone upon the brilliant scene. The people danced, embraced each other, and even wept for joy, and all hearts seemed to be filled with good emotions.

‘ On this memorable day was accomplished what Lafayette had been toiling for, and urging upon the king, the ministers, and the people, for years. This great national act, which was called the *Confederation*, was the promise of peace and good order, liberty and happiness, to his beloved country ; and for some time he indulged the hope that these blessings were secured. All France gave itself up to rejoicings ; Paris was a scene of perpetual festivity. Grand entertainments, balls, illuminations, reviews, followed in quick succession. Even the ruins of the Bastille were made the scene of a great entertainment ; and by the aid of thousands of brilliant lamps and torches, newly planted trees, and fresh sods which covered the earth like a carpet, and were laid down almost as quickly, that abode of misery was transformed, as if by magic, into a scene of mirth and festivity.

‘ To tell you how sadly all the hopes of good men were disappointed, must be reserved for another time ; we will leave the French to their rejoicings, for one night at least.’

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### FIFTH EVENING.

‘ I really dread,’ said Maria, ‘ to hear the rest of the French Revolution. It seems such a great pity that they could not have settled down peaceably, under their new constitution, and enjoyed themselves as we do. Why could n’t they, father ? ’

‘ There were many reasons. I will tell you a few of those you can best understand. The lower classes were not educated ; the upper classes were very immoral ; the king was weak-minded, and continually changing his plans ; and foreign nations interfered in the affairs of France, and added to her difficulties. The *Confederation*, as it was called, of the *Champ de Mars* was the last general movement of the whole Nation. After that, selfish and ambitious men divided the French people into parties, set them against each other, deluged the country with blood, and made the very name of the French Revolution a terror to the world, and a shame to France.

‘I believe I have told you that there was a party of men, called Jacobins, who had long opposed and hated Lafayette for his very moderation ; they became every day more powerful, and more extravagant in their plans and wishes. The king was treated worse and worse, the Constitution was revised and altered, and the king was persuaded or frightened into accepting another. The populace was becoming every day more disorderly. There was frequent fighting in the streets, and murder and violence became common. Lafayette did his utmost to repress these tumults, and often risked his life among the rabble. The National Guards partook of the violent spirit of others, and frequently showed a disinclination to follow the orders of their general. Finding, on one occasion, that the Guards refused to obey him, Lafayette resigned his command ; but, at the earnest solicitations of the National Assembly, and of the Guards themselves, he consented to take it again. The king, who had been for some months so guarded in his palace of the Tuileries, that he felt himself nothing but a prisoner, determined at last to see if he could not be permitted to go to a palace of his, a few miles from Paris, to pass Easter, and perform the ceremonies of the Catholics at that season. He set off with his family, but the populace and the National Guards tumultuously stopped his carriage. Lafayette was

soon in the scene of danger and difficulty. "If," said he to the king, "this be a matter of conscience with your majesty, we will, if necessary, die to maintain it ;" and he immediately offered to open a passage by force. The king however preferred to give up his intention and remain in Paris. Lafayette was always true to his oath ; he had sworn to be faithful to *the nation, the law, and the king*, and he now defended the freedom of the king, as sincerely as he had ever defended the freedom of the people. His situation therefore became every day more dangerous. The Jacobins only waited for an opportunity to destroy him, but the majority of the National Assembly still supported him. I cannot do better than close my account of Lafayette's command of the National Guards, by reading you an anecdote that I found to-day in a book published in this country and called "*Memoirs of Lafayette.*" "In attempting to suppress a dangerous riot he was shot at by one of the mob. The man was taken, and he forgave him. But the National Assembly decreed the death of the culprit who had attempted the life of the 'hero of the day.' The Municipality " (which means the city officers of Paris) "also had a gold medal struck off, in honor of Lafayette, and presented him with a bust of Washington, in approbation of his conduct."

'Great power and high honors were offered



him, if he would join one of the parties into which the nation was divided ; but he declined them all, and finding his exertions could no longer maintain public order, he resigned his command, and retired to his estate, forty miles from Paris, called La Grange. He was followed by the love and admiration of a great body of the people, and accompanied on his way by every mark of popular enthusiasm.'

'I am glad to think of him safe out of Paris,' said Maria ; 'for I was afraid of his being killed by some of those furious people.'

'That 's a good joke !' exclaimed Henry ; 'afraid of his being killed ! when you have seen him here, safe and sound, long after those dangers were passed.'

'I could not think of that,' replied Maria, somewhat abashed at Henry's laughter, 'when I was so interested in Papa's account of the dangers he passed through.'

'I am very glad you could not, my dear,' said her father ; 'for I must have told the story very badly, if you could. I never can help feeling as Maria does, when I listen to an account of great peril, even when it is told to me by the very person whose life I am concerned about. It may be a good joke to Henry, who loves to laugh whenever he can ; but it is a very natural feeling, and one my dear daughter need not be ashamed of.' Maria hardly smiled, though she felt very pleasantly at this ; for she

was afraid Henry would think she was triumphing over him, if she did ; she turned the conversation by asking, if Lafayette had nothing more to do in the French revolution.

‘ Yes, he put his life in peril several times, by his strong and fearless remonstrances against the bad conduct of the Jacobins ; and on Austria’s declaring war against France, he accepted the command of an army on the frontier. When he could no longer serve his country as a legislator, he was willing to fight for her against a foreign enemy.

‘ Though absent on this important service, he watched the proceedings at Paris ; and when he heard that the streets were filled with disorder, innocent persons murdered by hundreds at once, the king a prisoner, and his authority despised, he wrote such a letter to the Assembly as would have cost any other man his life ; but he was so generally respected and admired that his greatest enemies dared not touch him then. They were however so afraid of the effect which this letter might produce, if known to be his, that they declared it a forgery, and pretended to be very sure it was never written by General Lafayette.

As soon as he heard this, he set off for Paris ; and suddenly appeared before the Assembly, to tell them he wrote that letter, and would maintain all he had said in it. Before he arrived, however, the constitution was overthrown,

all law was destroyed, and Paris was filled with violence and terror ; so, after protesting, in a solemn and eloquent speech, against the wicked proceedings which led to this state of things, he returned to the command of the army. Here, he made one more attempt to stop the horrors of the revolution, by trying to persuade the soldiers to swear afresh to maintain the Constitution ; they however had been corrupted by this violent party-feeling, and refused the oath. Lafayette now found that his life was in danger ; and to avoid falling into the hands of his bitter enemies, he resolved to seek safety in flight. Accompanied by three of his general officers, he left the army, and was in a few hours beyond the limits of France. It was well for him that he went off when he did, for, at that very time, a large majority of the Assembly had voted him guilty of high treason, which, in those days, was sure to be followed by the execution of the person accused.'

' O, I am glad he escaped from those wicked men,' said Jane ; ' but where did he go ? '

' He did not go far, poor man, before he and his companions fell into the hands of the Austrians, who, instead of treating them as prisoners of war, which was all they had a right to do, wreaked their vengeance on them for being the friends of liberty and the French Constitution. They were confined in several different prisons, were given up once to the

Prussians, and then were returned again to Austria. They were made to endure a great many hardships and insults, and were at last put into separate dungeons, within a very strong castle at Olmütz, the capital of Moravia, one hundred and fifty miles north of Vienna.' Jane asked where Moravia was, and Henry told her it was a province of Germany.

'When Lafayette was shut up there, he was told, "that he would never again see any thing but the four walls of his dungeon; that he would never receive news of events or persons; that his name would be unknown in the prison; that in all accounts of him, sent to the Austrian court, he would only be distinguished by a certain number; and that he would never hear any thing of his family, or of the existence of his fellow prisoners." At the same time, his knife and all sharp instruments were taken from him, and he was told as a reason for it, that his situation would be such as to make him wish to commit suicide.'

'What cruel wretches those Austrians must have been!' exclaimed Henry; 'I hope he was not long in this dreadful situation.'

'He was confined there five years.'

'Five years!' exclaimed Henry and Maria at once; 'poor Lafayette!' Jane begged to know what a dungeon was, for she had not a clear idea of the meaning of the word. Henry wondered at Jane's not knowing what a dungeon was; but,

on being questioned by his father, he could only say, that he believed it was a dark room under ground.

Mr. Moreton said, ‘ That explanation is correct as far as it goes ; if, however, dungeons were as comfortable places as our dark cellar, where we keep cider, a man might live very well in such a room ; but dungeons are generally in the midst of other buildings, and the air is made damp and offensive by the moisture of drains, oozing through the earth that surrounds them. The bottom of a dungeon too is generally nothing but damp earth and sometimes mud. That one, in which Lafayette was confined, is described as very loathsome ; and one writer, who was a personal friend of Lafayette’s, and heard all about it from him, says, “ The want of air, and the dampness and filth of his dungeon, brought him more than once to the borders of the grave,” (that means, Jane, that he was very near dying) ; “ his body was wasted by diseases, of which, for a long time, not the slightest notice was taken ; and on one occasion he was reduced so low that his hair fell from him, entirely, by the excess of his sufferings. At the same time that he was thus cruelly confined, his estates in France were confiscated,” (that is, taken for the use of the government) ; “ his wife was cast into prison ; and those who still tried to maintain the Constitution were accused of *Fayetteism* and punished with death.” ’

‘O, what a forlorn and hopeless situation!’ said Maria; ‘I wonder he did not die with grief and suffering.’

‘I wonder,’ said Henry, that the Americans did not make war upon Austria, and take Olmütz by storm, and release the man who had done so much for our country. Why did n’t they, father?’

‘That’s rather a wild scheme of yours, Henry. The Americans might make war upon Austria for years and never be able to take Olmütz; and, if they were at the gates of the city, Lafayette might be put to death before they entered the citadel. Washington did all he could under such circumstances, by sending to the American Ministers at European Courts, and instructing them to use every exertion in favor of Lafayette; and when he found they were not successful, he wrote a letter,\* with his own hand, to the Em-

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\* WASHINGTON’S LETTER TO THE EMPEROR OF AUSTRIA.

“It will readily occur to your majesty, that occasions may sometimes exist, on which official considerations would constrain the chief of a nation to be silent and passive, in relation even to objects which affect his sensibility, and claim his interposition as a man. Finding myself precisely in this situation at present, I take the liberty of writing this private letter to your majesty, being persuaded that my motives will also be my apology for it.

“In common with the people of this country, I retain a strong and cordial sense of the services render

peror of Austria, in which he urged him very strongly to give up his prisoner, and allow him to come to the United States to live. But, all was in vain.

‘Lafayette’s love of liberty and conscientious opposition to tyranny, naturally made him an object of hatred to the absolute monarchs of Europe ; and there were others, besides the Emperor of Austria, who wished him to be imprisoned for life. He had friends however among the wise and good in every country of

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ed to them by the Marquis de Lafayette ; and my friendship for him has been constant and sincere. It is natural, therefore, that I should sympathize with him and his family, in their misfortunes, and endeavour to mitigate the calamities they experience, among which his present confinement is not the least distressing.

“I forbear to enlarge on this delicate subject. Permit me only to submit to your majesty’s consideration, whether his long imprisonment, and the confiscation of his estate, and the indigence and dispersion of his family, and the painful anxieties incident to all these circumstances, do not form an assemblage of sufferings which recommend him to the mediation of humanity ? Allow me, Sir, on this occasion to be its organ ; and to entreat that he may be permitted to come to this country, on such conditions, as your majesty may think it expedient to prescribe.

“As it is a maxim with me not to ask what, under similar circumstances, I would not grant, your majesty will do me the justice to believe that this request appears to me to correspond with those great principles of magnanimity and wisdom, which form the basis of sound policy and durable glory.”

Europe, who were anxiously watching an opportunity of finding out if he were still alive, and where he was confined. Many French patriots; who had fled to London, to escape from the dreadful massacres that were going on in Paris, interested themselves deeply in the fate of their brave countryman; and in 1793 they engaged Dr. Bollman, a fine young Hanoverian, of an adventurous spirit, to visit Germany for the purpose of gaining information on this subject. His first expedition was unsuccessful; he could not ascertain where the captive then was, or whether he were even alive. But the friends of Lafayette were not discouraged. In 1794 they again sent Dr. Bollman to Germany, to ascertain what had been his fate, and to try to effect his escape if he were still alive. With great difficulty he and his fellow prisoners were traced to the frontiers of Prussia; there it was found that an Austrian escort had received them, and taken the road to Olmütz. At that place it was ascertained that several state prisoners were kept in the citadel, with great secrecy and caution, and there seemed to be no doubt that Lafayette was one of them. Being a medical man, Dr. Bollman easily contrived to make the acquaintance of the surgeon of the fortress; and through him he discovered the fact, that Lafayette was indeed a prisoner within those walls. He resolved, if possible, to communicate with him; but



how to do it, without raising any suspicion in the mind of the surgeon, was the difficulty.

‘Inquiring one day, in a careless manner, and as a medical man, after the health of the prisoners, he was told that Lafayette’s was so injured by confinement, that he was occasionally allowed to take the air in a carriage, well guarded inside and out; speaking also of the occupations of the prisoners, he found that they were allowed the use of books, pen, ink, and paper. This was enough for the active spirit of Bollman; he laid a plan for rescuing Lafayette, while on one of his airings, and contrived means of acquainting him with it. Having obtained leave from the surgeon to lend the French general a book for his amusement, he immediately sent one openly, to the care of that medical gentlemen, and with it an unsealed note, in the French language, addressed to Lafayette. Finding nothing objectionable in either, the surgeon delivered them to his prisoner, without the least suspicion that they contained any thing more than a little innocent occupation for him. But how great must have been the joy and surprise of the unhappy captive, when he discovered by them, that his friends had found out the place of his captivity, and were exerting themselves to effect his escape! What a change, after despairing of all aid, and expecting to end his days in that fortress, to find that he had a friend near him, and that there was yet a hope of liberty!’

‘But I do not understand,’ said Henry, ‘what Lafayette found in that note, or in the book, to give him hope; for the surgeon had seen nothing in either.’

‘I have not yet told you how it was managed. The note, though it appeared to be merely a few lines of apology for sending him the book, was worded a little differently from common on purpose to attract his attention; for a Frenchman would perceive the difference immediately, though a German would not. He was requested to read the book attentively, and if any passages particularly engaged his notice, to let the writer know his opinion of them. This was sufficient to make Lafayette read the book very carefully, and soon he perceived a word written in pencil between the lines; a little further on, there was another word, and in the next page another, and so on; these words put together made a sentence, and in this way he was informed who the writer was, and by whom employed; the whole plan of his escape was made known to him, and he was asked if he agreed to try it.’

‘That was an ingenious contrivance,’ observed Maria; ‘I wonder how Dr. Bollman ever thought of such a thing. I fully expected he would use lemon juice, giving Lafayette a hint to hold it to the fire.’

‘There are some accounts which say that he did use the means you speak of; but I have been

told by those who had the best opportunity of knowing the truth, that it was only by pencil marks in a book, that the plan was communicated.'

'Well,' said Henry, 'how did Lafayette reply without letting the surgeon perceive what he was about?'

'He merely returned the book, after rubbing out the pencil marks; and with it he sent an open note, saying he was much obliged for the perusal, and that he highly approved of its contents.'

'Having thus arranged every thing with Lafayette, Dr. Bollman thought it best to guard against all suspicion by leaving Olmütz for a few months. Accordingly he took leave of his friend the surgeon, as if he never expected to see him again, and went to Vienna. We may imagine how full Dr. Bollman's mind must have been of the great business he had undertaken, and how he must have desired to accomplish it speedily and safely. But there were numerous difficulties in his way. Olmütz is situated in a large plain which extends about three miles from the city in every direction, so that a man standing on its walls could distinctly see every thing passing upon the plain. Sentinels were kept always on the look-out, for the purpose of giving an alarm if any prisoner should attempt to escape, and all the inhabitants of the surrounding country had orders to assist in

retaking him. Great rewards were likewise given to the person who arrested a prisoner. It was on this plain, that the General took his airing, accompanied by an officer and a guard, both well armed ; and it was then that he must be rescued, if it were possible to be done at all. To undertake it entirely alone, seemed too hazardous ; yet whom to trust with the important secret, it was difficult to determine. By patiently waiting the course of events, the very right person at last appeared. Dr. Bollman became acquainted, at Vienna, with a young American named Francis K. Huger.\*

The name was hardly pronounced before Jane clapped her hands and exclaimed, ‘ That ’s the little boy that Lafayette saw when he first landed in America ; is n’t it, Papa ? ’

Mr. Moreton told her, ‘ It was that little boy grown up into a man. Dr. Bollman found him to be a youth of fine talents, great firmness and noble enthusiasm ; considering him therefore well qualified to assist in this dangerous undertaking, he told him the secret, and Huger entered at once, with his whole soul, into the plan.’

‘ That ’s right,’ exclaimed Henry ; ‘ they were two fine fellows ! I wish I had been there to help them.’ His sisters laughed at the idea

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\* This name is pronounced, by those who bear it, as if it were spelt *Ujee*.

of a boy like him being of any use ; but their father said, ' If Henry had been there, with a stout heart, and willing to risk his life for Lafayette, he might have been very useful, as you will see before the story was ended.'

Henry looked delighted at this, and begged his father to go on.

' When at last Dr. Bollman thought he had been long enough absent from Olmütz to be forgotten, he set out from Vienna with Mr. Huger, in a hired carriage, and had, besides, a servant and two saddle-horses with him. These they took under pretence of varying their mode of travelling, by sometimes riding on horseback and sending their servant forward in the carriage, but really that they might be better prepared for carrying off Lafayette. Dr. Bollman's plan for doing it, was this. As he had never seen Lafayette, the first thing was to have a signal agreed upon, by which each should know the other, the moment they met ; so Dr. Bollman had told Lafayette, by the pencil marks in the book which he lent him, that, when he saw a horseman pass the carriage he rode out in, and take off his hat and wipe his forehead, that would be the time for his deliverance ; and he must do the same, that his unknown friend might be sure he was the person to be rescued. Lafayette was then to make his ride as long as possible from the town ; and when he got out of his carriage to

walk for exercise, as he frequently did, accompanied by an officer, he was to draw him away from the carriage as far as he could without exciting suspicion, and then Bollman was to ride up to them, dismount, and seize the officer, while Lafayette got on his horse and rode off to a place, which he would be told the name of at the time.'

'O, how Lafayette must have looked out, every time he took an airing, for the man wiping his forehead,' said Maria; 'and how long it must have seemed to him before he came! all the time Bollman was in Vienna!'

'Yes, time always seems long when we are waiting, and it must be doubly tedious to a prisoner; but, in so difficult an undertaking, every precaution was necessary, and a little too much haste might have ruined all. But, to go on with my story; as Huger was to be with Bollman, it was agreed that, to avoid all mistakes, both should wipe their foreheads, and so let Lafayette know that they were both his friends, and were come to deliver him from captivity. The better to conceal their designs, they determined, when they arrived at Olmütz, and had ascertained what day Lafayette would take his airing, to send their carriage and servant on to Hoff, a place about twenty miles distant, and on the direct road out of the Austrian dominions, with orders to be in readiness to proceed on the day of the rescue; letting their

servant suppose that they meant to follow on horseback, for the pleasure of the exercise. One of their saddle-horses was trained to carry double, that both might mount him, leaving the other for Lafayette. Their pistols were to have nothing but powder in them, and they would take no other weapons, because they considered that they had no right to commit murder, even to liberate so important a prisoner. Thus did these brave and generous young men cheerfully resolve to risk their own liberty and lives, to save a person whom they knew only by reputation ; and yet, from a virtuous scruple at taking life, they engaged in this most daring and difficult enterprise without the same advantages which those armed men would have, with whom they were to contend.'

'Stout hearts, and a good cause,' said Henry, 'might make up for the want of arms ; I don't doubt they succeeded.'

'The important day arrived ; they ascertained that a carriage, with a prisoner and an officer inside, and a guard behind, had passed out of the fortress ; and supposing it must be Lafayette, they mounted their horses and followed. They soon came up with the carriage ; having passed it at a brisk trot, they slackened their pace, that it might again get before them ; and, as it passed, they both took off their hats and wiped their foreheads. They were im-

mediately relieved from all doubt as to its being the right prisoner, by observing him to do the same. They then followed the carriage. Two or three miles from the city, it turned into a less public road, and Lafayette got out to walk, attended only by the officer who had been riding with him. They had proceeded some distance on foot, and appeared to be in earnest conversation together, when Bollman and Huger agreed that the moment was come for them to act ; so putting spurs to their horses, they galloped up to them at once. A struggle ensued, in which the officer was easily overcome, the guard fled to give the alarm in the city, and Lafayette stood before them a free man. One of the horses however had broken loose during the contest, and thus there remained but one among three of them.'

'There !' exclaimed Henry, 'if I had been there, I could have held the horses. What did they do ?'

'Lafayette's generous deliverers insisted on his mounting the horse, and said they would save themselves on foot. They spoke in English, and told him to go to Hoff. He was very unwilling to leave his brave friends in such a helpless condition, and, after riding away once, he returned to see if he could not be of some service to them ; but what they most cared for was his safety, and they begged and entreated him to leave them and save himself. Thus urged by them, he cantered slowly away.'



‘ O dear ! why did n’t he go as fast as the horse could carry him ? ’ said Henry.

‘ I dare say he went slowly, because he could not bear to leave his friends in danger,’ replied Maria.

‘ Besides that,’ continued Mr. Moreton, ‘ it would have been very unwise to set out at full speed ; as he had many miles to go, his horse would soon fail him, if he began too fast.’

‘ I never could have helped going at full speed,’ said Henry, ‘ particularly across that plain ; I would have galloped as fast as the horse’s legs could move.’

‘ I dare say you would, Henry, for moderation is not one of your virtues at present ; as you grow older, I hope you will learn more of it. If Lafayette had been as impetuous as you are, he might have broken his neck, before he had crossed the plain, and there would have been an end of him and of my story ; but, as it is, there is still a good deal more to be told.’

‘ Well, pray go on, father,’ said Henry, glad to change the subject.

‘ The run-away horse was soon caught ; but it was not the one they had trained to carry double, and when the two friends mounted him, he became unmanageable and threw them both. They were at first stunned by the fall, but soon recovered ; their horse was then to be caught a second time ; when this was done, Huger generously insisted on Bollman’s

mounting alone, and, as he understood German much better than Huger, he consented and rode off to join Lafayette at Hoff. He arrived safely at that town, and found his carriage in waiting, but could hear or see nothing of Lafayette. Fear and doubt now filled his mind ; but he waited as patiently as he could till evening, hoping every hour for the arrival of him whom he had risked so much to save. Night came, but no Lafayette. The next day he dismissed the carriage, and proceeded on horseback by a circuitous road to the frontiers, hoping that his friends might have escaped by a different route. There he was arrested as a suspicious person, and delivered up to the Austrians, who soon lodged him safely within the walls of Olmütz.'

'O, that terrible Olmütz !' 'Poor Dr. Bollman !' 'But what became of Lafayette ? I hope he was safe !' exclaimed Maria, Jane, and Henry, at the same moment.

'Lafayette rode on, not knowing which way his friends meant him to go, for he mistook the words, "Go to Hoff," for a general direction to "go off." After riding about ten miles, he came to the village of Jägersdorff, and, soon after he passed it, the road divided ; that leading to the frontiers lay to the right ; he took the left ; but, fearing he was wrong, he inquired of a peasant the way to Bautropp. The man, after eying him very narrowly, told him he

had missed his way, but directed him to take a road which would soon lead him right. Lafayette's appearance, his foreign accent, his horse in a foam, and his inquiries, convinced the man he was a prisoner, making his escape ; he therefore directed him to take a road which would lead him by a circuit directly back to Jägersdorff, while he ran to tell the circumstance to a magistrate. In a few minutes the unhappy fugitive found himself surrounded by a guard of armed men, who carried him before the magistrate. Every thing served to increase suspicion, and he was detained there till he was recognised by an officer from Olmütz, two days afterwards. He was then carried back to his prison, confined much more rigorously, and made to endure those hardships which I mentioned when I first told you of his five years' captivity. He had besides the pain of supposing that his brave deliverers were suffering equal misery, in consequence of their generous attempt to liberate him ; and what he had heard of the horrors of the French revolution, during the few days he was out of his dungeon, made him more anxious than ever for the fate of his family. Thus did this well planned and, in many respects, well executed attempt to rescue Lafayette, end only in making his condition worse, and in adding two more captives to the dungeons of Olmütz, for poor Huger was taken before he could cross the plain. The whole transac-

tion had been observed from the walls of the town, and the alarm was so quickly given that the peasants were soon in full chase after him. Though he ran very swiftly, it was impossible to escape from the numbers that joined in the pursuit ; he was taken and carried to Olmütz, but he consoled himself with the idea that the man whom he had sacrificed himself for, was safe beyond the reach of his tormentors. Mr. Huger was chained to the floor, in a small, arched dungeon, about six feet by eight, without any light, and with only bread and water for food. Once in six hours, by day and by night, a guard came with a lamp and examined every brick in the dungeon, and every link in his chain, to be sure that the captive was safe. Huger used to entreat this man to tell him whether Lafayette and Dr. Bollman had escaped, but never could get any answer. He earnestly begged to be permitted to send to his mother, in America, merely the words, "I am alive," signed with his name ; but to this he received a rude refusal. We must now leave the three friends, shut up separately in the castle of Olmütz, ignorant of each other's fate ; for we have exceeded our time considerably, and this is a good place to leave off.'

The children were so affected by the misfortunes of Lafayette and his noble-minded friends, that they went to their suppers in silence ; and Henry was afterwards seen lying

on the floor, in an enclosure of chairs, that he had made according to measurement, to show Jane the exact size of Mr. Huger's dungeon. Jane proposed tying his hands and feet with her skipping-rope, but to that he objected, and jumped up to write his notes.

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### SIXTH EVENING.

‘Now, papa,’ said Jane, ‘I hope you are going to let some of those people really out of prison; who got out first?’

‘Dr Bollman and Mr. Huger were released long before Lafayette; so I will tell you their history first. The day after Huger was taken, he was examined before the chief magistrate of the city of Olmütz, and was amazed to find himself accused of a conspiracy against the Austrian government. He defended himself as well as he could, through an interpreter, and soon found that the person, who performed that office, was friendly to him and made the best of his answers.

After this and several other examinations, he was told by the chief magistrate, that he must not expect pardon, and advised to prepare for the worst. Knowing that he was in

the power of an absolute monarch, whose will was superior to all law, he thought his condition quite hopeless. Bollman was separately examined, and treated in the same manner. For three months they dragged on a miserable existence, in the most rigorous confinement. After that time, each was removed to a better room, into which glimmered a borrowed light, and they were supplied with better food and clothing. They were now very near each other, but without knowing it.'

'What do you mean by a borrowed light?' asked Henry and Jane.

'It is a light that, instead of coming directly from out of doors, as the light of this window does, comes through another window, or door-way. Those borrowed lights proved of great importance to our prisoners, as you will find by and by. One day, Huger was agreeably surprised by a visit from his friendly interpreter. To see another human face, besides that of his surly jailer, was a great pleasure; and to perceive in it a kind sympathy for his situation, was an inexpressible comfort to one in his forlorn condition. He learned from the interpreter (Mr. W—— he is called, in the only account I have seen of this affair), that the Emperor of Austria and his ministers supposed there had been a general conspiracy, in Olmütz, to release Lafayette, and that a great many persons had been taken up

on suspicion ; for no one could believe that so daring an exploit could have been planned and executed by two young strangers only ; but as no proofs of others being concerned in it had appeared, they alone would be brought to trial in a few days. Huger now learned, for the first time, that the plan had failed, and Lafayette and Bollman were prisoners like himself. This kind visit from the interpreter was a great comfort to Huger ; and the prospect of being soon brought to trial, however it might terminate, was better than the miserable uncertainty he had before suffered.

‘His treatment too became every day less rigorous ; even the jailer was not so reserved as before, but came occasionally to visit him. He discovered moreover that his friend Bollman occupied the room over him ; from the position of the outside window which he could see through his smaller one, he concluded that both apartments were lighted by it ; and after many endeavours to hold some communication with Bollman, he at length succeeded. Without pens, ink, or paper, pencil or knife, board or slate, he contrived to write a few words to his friend ; now, how do you suppose he managed it ?’

‘Oh, do n’t set Henry to guessing, papa, or he will never stop,’ said Jane ; ‘do tell us at once how it was.’

‘He picked a piece of lime from the wall, and with that he scratched a few words upon

his black silk neckerchief ; this he fastened to the end of a stick, and, by climbing up the side of the room, put it through the small opening or window which let in the borrowed light, and held it up as high as he could.

‘ After a while, it attracted the attention of Bollman, who reached it with with great difficulty ; but only think how surprised and delighted he must have been, when he found that piece of old black silk contained tidings of his dear friend, Huger ! He replied in the same way, and, after that, they never allowed a day to pass without writing to each other, until, through the kind offices of the interpreter, they were allowed personal interviews. The jailer’s wife was bribed by Mr. W. to carry them books, food, and warmer clothes, and thus the latter part of their confinement was rendered more tolerable. At length, at the end of seven months, their trial commenced ; the idea of a conspiracy was given up, and they were accused of nothing more than attempting to rescue a state prisoner. The fact having been proved in court, they were sent back to prison to await the sentence that the chief magistrate should choose to pronounce against them. It was some days before they heard what it was likely to be ; then their kind friend Mr. W. came and informed them that it would probably be *imprisonment for life*. They were greatly shocked and surprised at this, for they had not expect-



ed any thing so severe. Mr. W. consoled them however by telling them that a Russian nobleman, Count Metrowsky, who lived near their prison, had become deeply interested in their fate, and would do all in his power to serve them. He hinted that a present of money to the chief magistrate would change the sentence in their favor; and, on hearing that they could not provide themselves with a sufficient sum before their fate would be decided, he said that Count Metrowsky was ready to advance whatever money they might want to procure their release, and pay their expenses out of Austria.

‘Thus, by the generosity of a nobleman, whom they had never seen, and the active exertions of their young friend, the interpreter, who made the bargain with the unprincipled magistrate, their sentence was changed to a week’s imprisonment. The moment the time was expired, they set out for the nearest seaport; and it was well they did so, for, only a few hours after they were gone, an order arrived from Vienna for a new trial, which would certainly have ended in death or perpetual imprisonment.’

Great joy was expressed by the children for the safety of Bollman and Huger, and then their thoughts turned on the unfortunate captive who had been so much longer confined, and for whom there was no hope of a trial, and no prospect of release.

Mrs. Moreton expressed her hope that Lafayette's benevolent mind was comforted by knowing that his brave deliverers were released, and had escaped in safety.

'No, my dear,' said Mr. Moreton; 'he was purposely kept ignorant of it, and even made to believe that his faithful friends would certainly perish on the scaffold, and that it was intended that he himself should be publicly executed.'

● 'How is it possible,' said Maria, 'that men's hearts can be so hard! how could they take such pains to torment a fellow creature! I am glad we have no such dungeons and jailers and chief magistrates in our country.'

'It is by the indulgence of unkind feelings when young, that men grow up to be hard-hearted,' replied Mr Moreton; 'I have seen children say and do things to each other, which showed the same kind of cruelty, that made Lafayette suffer so much; and if, instead of being continually checked and corrected, it were indulged, they would grow up to be as bad men and women as the persons who tyrannized over the prisoners at Olmütz. But to return to my story; during the winter of 1794, Lafayette was reduced almost to the last extremity by a violent fever, and yet he had no proper attendance, no suitable food, no decent clothes; there he was alone and unfriended, ignorant of the fate of all that were dear to him, and

likely to perish by sickness, if not by the hand of the executioner.

‘How far he allowed himself to despair of relief, I do not know ; but I dare say that his well regulated mind preserved him from it as much as was possible in such a dreadful situation ; and I am sure his life ought to teach us the folly of giving way to despair, under any circumstances.

‘When things looked the darkest, a source of consolation was at hand. Madame de Lafayette was nearer to her husband than he could have believed possible. She had been released, after a long imprisonment in Paris, where her sister, mother, and grandmother had perished on the scaffold ; and she was saved only by the death of the tyrant Robespierre. As soon as she had gained strength enough for the undertaking, she resolved on sharing, if possible, the prison of her husband, in Austria. She sent her son to the care of General Washington in this country, and, taking her two young daughters with her, set out for Germany, dressed in disguise, and with American passports. She went first to Vienna, and obtained an audience of the Emperor, in which she implored him to liberate her husband ; finding all her entreaties and arguments vain, she begged and received leave, for herself and daughters, to share his captivity. They went directly to Olmütz ; but before they could be al-

lowed entrance, they were deprived of all the little comforts they had brought with them, and told that if they once passed the gates, they must never come out again !'

'O, dreadful !' said Henry ; 'I wonder they ever went.'

Mrs. Moreton and her daughters could better sympathize with Lafayette's wife and children than Henry, and little Jane was quite sure she should want to go to prison too, if papa were there.

'This,' said Mr. Moreton, was certainly a great proof of devoted affection. To be willing to die for a husband and father, is not so great a sacrifice as to be willing to live and share the misery of such an imprisonment as Lafayette's ; and I agree with Madame de Staël, who says, that "ancient history offers nothing more admirable than the conduct of Lafayette, his wife, and daughters, in the prison of Olmütz."'

'How surprised Lafayette must have been, when he saw his wife come into his dungeon,' observed Maria, 'if he had heard nothing of her till she appeared ; how was that, father ? did n't he know she was there, till he saw her ?'

'I cannot tell you how that was ; but whether he heard of her arrival, or saw her first, his heart must have been filled with a variety of emotions, sorrow as well as joy ; for the happiness of knowing that his family had escaped

the massacres of the revolution, that they were safely out of the French dominions, and that he should again enjoy their society, must have been greatly marred by their becoming partners in his sufferings and privations. To see his delicate wife, and tender, young daughters exposed to all the hardships that he endured, must have been a very great trial.'

'Certainly,' replied Mrs. Moreton; 'and therefore his wife was quite right to go to him at once, without asking his leave; and when he found that she and his daughters were cheerful, and took pleasure in his society, he must have known that they were happier than they could be when away from him.'

'I wonder how old his daughters were,' said Maria.

'I believe one was about eighteen and the other fifteen.'

'Madame de Lafayette's health was soon destroyed by the miseries of that imprisonment; and she wrote to Vienna for leave to go there, for one week, that she might breathe a purer air, and consult a physician. It was two months before she received any answer; and then she was told that no objection would be made to her leaving her husband, but that, if she should do so, she must never return to him. This devoted wife immediately signed a paper by which she formally acquainted the Austrian government with her fixed determination to

bear every thing, rather than abandon her husband ; and she never made another effort to obtain a change of air or medical advice.'

'Is she alive now,' inquired Henry.

'No, she died ten years after this dreadful imprisonment, of diseases brought on by her sufferings at Olmütz.'

'O that terrible Olmütz !' exclaimed Maria ; 'I wish they were all safe out of it ; were there no more attempts to rescue Lafayette ?'

'Not by stratagem or force ; but the friends of freedom and admirers of Lafayette's character, in the British parliament, made speeches about his shameful imprisonment. General Fitzpatrick made a motion for an inquiry into the case, and it was seconded by General Tarleton who had fought against Lafayette in America ; Mr Fox, too, made one of his most eloquent speeches, against the cruelty and injustice of thus treating a brave man, who was only a prisoner of war. These generous men could not succeed in making the English government interfere in his behalf ; but their solemn and earnest discussions called every body's attention to the subject, and when Austria was beaten by France and about to make peace, the French government gave orders to General Bonaparte, to insist that Austria should give up all the French prisoners in Olmütz, as one of the conditions of peace.'

'Were there any other French prisoners

there besides Lafayette and his family ?' asked Henry.

'Yes, the officers that accompanied him, when he left France, were each separately confined there ; but there was no great difficulty in obtaining the liberty of any one except Lafayette ; the Emperor of Austria seemed resolved on his perpetual imprisonment.

'When at last that despotic monarch found that he must give him up, he tried to make Lafayette accept his liberation upon certain conditions that would lessen his freedom of action afterwards ; but, to the honor of that noble spirit, which no sufferings could change, he absolutely refused all the Emperor's conditions ; and declared, with his usual firmness of character, that he would never accept his freedom, on any terms that would interfere with his rights and duties, either as a French or an American citizen.'

'That was true greatness of soul,' observed Mrs. Moreton ; 'for I suppose he did not know that the persons sent to make a peace with Austria had orders to obtain his liberty as one of the conditions, and yet he preferred the miserable life he led in prison, to giving up his principles in the least degree.'

'Certainly,' continued Mr. Moreton ; 'he had every reason to believe, that, in refusing the Emperor's conditions, he was shutting himself out from all hope of release ; and how

much more heroic feeling, how much more self-sacrifice and self-command, it must require to enable a man to do that, than to make a military hero, like Alexander or Napoleon ! ’

‘ Yes,’ added Mrs. Moreton ; ‘ the poor captive in the dungeon of Olmütz was, at that moment, acting a greater, a more noble part, than the conqueror of a world ! ’

‘ And enjoying more happiness too,’ observed Mr. Moreton ; ‘ miserable as was his outward condition, kings and princes might have envied him his inward feelings. These would have been the reward of his virtue, had he never been set at liberty ; but the whole of Lafayette’s life is singularly remarkable as an example of pure, disinterested goodness, receiving its reward from outward things, as well as from a satisfied conscience. After a very long negotiation, in which the hardest point to settle was Lafayette’s release, he was at last delivered from captivity, with his family and fellow-sufferers, on the 25th of August, 1797 ; after an imprisonment of five years, twenty-two months of which were shared by his wife and daughters.’

‘ Oh I am glad they are out,’ exclaimed Henry, whilst Maria drew a long breath, and said, she was ‘ so tired of pitying them ! ’

Mr. Moreton thought this a good time to leave off ; but the children begged to know where Lafayette went with his family.



‘ He went first to Hamburg, and there he had his rights, both as a French and an American citizen, formally acknowledged ; and then he went to the neighbouring territories of Holstein, where he and his family lived in tranquillity and retirement about a year.’

‘ How they must have enjoyed living in a comfortable house, and sleeping in clean beds, and having decent clothes to wear ! ’ said Mrs. Moreton.

‘ And being free to go in and out whenever they pleased,’ added Henry ; ‘ I should scamper about all day, out of doors, to be sure I was free, if I had been shut up so long.’

‘ Perhaps,’ said his father, ‘ it was something of the same feeling that you describe, which made a farmer of Lafayette, at this time ; for it was during the first year of his liberty that he became interested in agriculture, which pursuit he has ever since been very fond of.

‘ During this year, his eldest daughter was married, and his son returned from America. We will now leave them in the peaceful enjoyment of each other’s society, and go to our tea.’

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## SEVENTH EVENING.

‘I wonder,’ said Maria, as she drew her chair close to her father’s, and prepared to listen as usual to his narrative, ‘that Lafayette did not come with his family to this country, and live here in peace and safety, instead of going to Holstein, or any other place in Europe, where they had continual wars, and where absolute monarchs could shut people up in dungeons, without any good reason. Why did not he come here, as soon as he was out of prison?’

‘Because, my dear, he loved his country better than himself; he was too good a patriot and too generous, to seek his own safety in America, when his native land might need his services. Poor, distracted France, though deluged with blood, torn by factions, and governed by selfish and cruel men, might by degrees arrive at a better state of things; and he considered that the true friends of liberty should hold themselves always ready to help her, as soon as an opportunity occurred; so far, therefore, from abandoning her to her unhappy fate, he accepted a very flattering and hospitable invitation from the Batavian republic, and established himself, for some months, at Utrecht, in Holland, for the sake of being nearer the borders of his own country.

‘ During Lafayette’s absence from France, the king and queen had been beheaded, the country declared a republic, and ruled in various ways, by different parties of violent men. Notwithstanding all this misrule and disorder at home, the French armies had been every where victorious over their foreign foes ; and General Bonaparte had distinguished himself as a military hero, in various campaigns. When the young conqueror returned to his own country, he was received with joyful acclamations ; and finding himself the idol of the day, he was not long in resolving to use his popularity for his own aggrandizement. Having conquered other countries for France, he now conquered France for himself ; and in her exhausted and distracted state she fell into his hands, an easy victim. If Bonaparte had had the pure patriotism of Washington or Lafayette, if he had loved his country better than himself, he would have used his power to settle the affairs of France, and to give her the free government she had so long been struggling for. No one ever had a better opportunity of distinguishing himself as a true friend to his country, than Napoleon had at that time ; and if he had used it as Lafayette would have done, in his place, his memory would now be loved and honored as Washington’s is ; but Napoleon was as remarkable for selfishness, as Washington and Lafayette were for disinterestedness ; and his

great object was to raise himself to the highest dignity, to get all power into his own hands, and keep it.

‘ In November, 1799, he forced all those who had any share in the government of France to give it up to him ; he became First Consul, and began making such arrangements as were necessary to prevent further confusion and civil war. Hoping that Napoleon would use his power to put the government of France upon a good foundation, and that something might now be done for the cause of freedom, Lafayette returned with his family to his native country.

‘ He had been deprived, by the Jacobins and other violent revolutionists, of most of his property ; but one estate, that belonged originally to his wife, called La Grange, still remained, and there he established himself. A few conversations with Bonaparte, on the affairs of France, convinced Lafayette that the new ruler was no friend to liberty ; and finding that he could not persuade him to allow the people a proper share in the government, he would have nothing to do with the new order of things. He was very much pressed by the First Consul to become a senator, and to accept a place under his government that would bring him a large income ; but Lafayette was true to his principles, and refused all favors from the enemy of free institutions. Three

years afterwards, when Napoleon had stretched his power still further, and caused himself to be made First Consul *for life*, Lafayette voted against it, and wrote a letter to Bonaparte himself, expressing his objections to it, which gave so much offence, that from that time all intercourse between them ceased. Napoleon's dislike to Lafayette was afterwards shown in various ways; it even prevented his son and son-in-law from receiving promotion in the army, when entitled to it by their services. Once, when Napoleon saw the name of young Lafayette in a military report, as having distinguished himself, he scratched it out, saying with impatience, "These Lafayettes cross my path every where." Discouraged therefore in every attempt to serve their country, they retired from public life entirely; the whole family was collected at La Grange, and lived there, in the happiest retirement, all the time that Bonaparte's despotism lasted.

'Satisfied in his own mind, that he had done his whole duty towards his unhappy country, Lafayette had the wisdom and forbearance, not to interfere uselessly with the course which things took, under the reign of Bonaparte; and whilst that restless and ambitious spirit was flourishing away, as Emperor of the French and conqueror of Europe, and rushing headlong to his final destruction, the noble soul of Lafayette was enjoying the pure happiness of

a good conscience, as he amused himself with his farm and his books, surrounded by a large family and numerous dependants, who looked up to him with love and reverence.'

'What a difference,' said Maria, 'between living as he did then at La Grange, and being in the dungeon of Olmütz!'

'Yes,' said Mrs. Moreton; 'one of the uses of adversity is to give us a higher relish of the common blessings of life. The privilege of breathing pure air, which is the commonest of all comforts, and is one we hardly ever think of, must have been highly prized and frequently remarked upon by those who had been so long deprived of it.'

'Do you wish you had been a prisoner, mother, that you might know how to value it?' asked Henry.

'No, I do not desire suffering, that I may enjoy the contrast; but if I were obliged to endure it, this would be one of my rewards. By only sympathizing with the miseries of others, we may learn to estimate our own blessings more highly. I am sure I have thought more of living in a good house, and breathing a pure air, ever since I heard of what Madame Lafayette and her daughters suffered, than I ever did before; and I have no doubt that Lafayette and his family enjoyed the comforts of their own mansion much more for having been in prison.'

‘I hope,’ said Maria, ‘that Lafayette lived a good while in that quiet, comfortable manner at La Grange.’

‘He lived there,’ replied her farther, ‘for more than fourteen years without disturbance from the government, and without taking any active part in public affairs. In the course of that time he lost his wife; but his family continued to be a large one, for his three children were all married and lived with him.’

‘He was visited, at La Grange, by many distinguished persons from different countries; and, among other English patriots, by the celebrated statesman, Charles James Fox, who made such an eloquent speech, in parliament, about his imprisonment.’

‘Before Lafayette ever came to this country, he made a visit to England, and became acquainted with Mr. Fox. Both being attached to the same principles of liberty, a strong friendship grew up between them; and while Lafayette was helping us to fight for our freedom here, Mr. Fox was speaking boldly for our rights, in the British parliament.’

‘The meeting between these two friends, after so many years spent by each in public employments, must have been very interesting and gratifying. One beautiful memorial of it is preserved with great care, by all the family; and this is an English ivy, planted by Mr. Fox, which now covers one of the towers of La Grange, and is highly valued by its owner.’

‘A tower!’ exclaimed Jane; ‘I thought they were living now in a comfortable house, and not in a tower.’

‘And why should not a comfortable house have a tower?’ asked Henry with some surprise. ‘If I ever build a house, I mean to have a tower at each corner.’

Jane said she thought a tower was a dismal kind of prison, or else an old ruin; she never heard of them in comfortable houses.

‘O, you think so,’ said Henry, ‘because you have read of prisoners being sent to the Tower of London, and you have heard about “the ivy-mantled tower,” in that long piece of poetry, that Maria repeats by heart.’

Jane allowed that her brother had rightly guessed the origin of her notions of a tower. Her father then explained to her, that *tower* meant a building, either round or square, that is raised very high, and is of the same size from top to bottom. He said, ‘they were much used in building castles; and when the nobility of the old countries lived in castles, the towers often contained their most comfortable apartments.’

‘Did ladies and gentlemen ever live in castles?’ asked Jane.

‘Certainly, my dear; before good laws were established in England and France and other countries of Europe, neighbours used to fight with each other, and no one thought himself safe, unless he were within the walls of a



castle ; for castles were built in such a manner as to be easily defended against an enemy. Besides very thick, high walls enclosing all the buildings and yard, there was a deep ditch all around, called a *moat*, filled with water ; and from these high towers, they had an extensive view of the country, could see an enemy approach, and make their defence. When good laws were established, and people no longer needed any such fortresses against their neighbours, they preferred houses differently shaped, and many of these castles were left uninhabited. For want of repairs, the wood-work all decayed, the roofs fell in, and nothing remained but the solid walls, which are called ruins. These are often surrounded with weeds and bushes ; and the ever-green ivy being a common creeper, it frequently spreads all over the towers and walls, covering up the old grey stones like a mantle.'

' Oh, now I understand what the "ivy-mantled tower" means,' said Jane, with great animation. ' Is the Tower of London a ruin too ? '

' No ; that has been kept in repair, and used as a prison as well as for other purposes. Many of the old castles are converted into prisons ; and some are still inhabited by their owners, and make very comfortable, luxurious dwellings ; the circular rooms in the towers are often the most agreeable apartments in the building.

' Lafayette's house at La Grange was original-

ly built for the defence of its inhabitants. It is a square pile of buildings, with towers at each corner, and is surrounded by a ditch or moat. The highest apartment in one of the towers is Lafayette's library ; it over-looks his farm and farm-yard ; so there he can sit and read, and yet see what his people are doing in the fields. I have heard from Americans who have visited La Grange, that it is a beautiful old place, with fine woods, orchards, and gardens, an extensive park, and a productive farm. Lafayette, with his children and grand-children, to the number of twenty, and numerous domestics, make a very large and happy family, all united and governed by love. When he speaks to any of his hired people, he always calls them "my friend," or "my good boy," or "my dear girl," and this kindness meets with the return it deserves, in the affection and faithful services of all those whom he employs. Thus you can fancy how happily Lafayette must have lived at La Grange during the reign of the Emperor Napoleon.'

'Now, father,' said Henry, 'I hope you are going to tell us something about the fall of Napoleon ; for I never could understand how it was, that, after conquering all Europe, he got beaten at last.'

'It was that very love of conquest that ruined him. He carried his armies into the heart of Russia, regardless of the intense cold

of the winters there ; and those who were not killed in battle, were for the most part either frozen or starved to death, on their retreat. The account of what those poor French soldiers suffered, which you will one day read in a book written by Count Ségur, is enough to make your blood run cold ; and when you consider that thousands perished in this way, merely to gratify the ambition of one man, you will know what selfish creatures conquerors are.

‘ As soon as he was unsuccessful, those whom he had before subdued, and kept down by the terror of his arms, rose against him, and joined Russia ; and after a great many hard-fought battles, and dreadful slaughter on both sides, these different nations (called “ the allied powers ”) drove Napoleon’s armies back to their own country, took the city of Paris, and refused to make peace with the French as long as Napoleon was their ruler. The Emperor, finding all hope lost, was persuaded, by his generals, to abdicate in favor of his son.’

Jane asked the meaning of *abdicate*, and was told by Henry, with action suited to the word, that it was ‘ taking the crown off his own head and flinging it down.’ ‘ I think,’ said Jane, ‘ he did not throw it down ; he put it on his son’s head.’

‘ He tried to do so,’ continued her father, ‘ but the allied powers would have nothing to

do with either Napoleon or his son ; they wanted a ruler for France who would be a safe and peaceable neighbour ; they wished also to keep the power of kings always in the same families ; so they made the brother of the last king, Louis the Sixteenth, king of France, with the title of Louis the Eighteenth. He had been living for nearly twenty years in retirement, in Great Britain, when he was called to the throne of his ancestors. A large proportion of the French people were so tired of the Emperor's wars, and so alarmed at what the victorious armies of Europe might do with their poor country, that they were willing to receive Louis as their king ; and when they found that by so doing they should be better treated by the allies, the citizens of Paris appeared quite delighted with the return of the Bourbons. (That is the family name of the French kings.) Napoleon was sent to reign over a very small island, in the Mediterranean, called Elba. He was regretted by his personal friends, and by the soldiers, who had so long looked up to him as their gallant leader. His imperial guards in particular did not like the change at all ; but there was no resisting such a mighty force as that which surrounded Paris, and every thing was settled according to the pleasure of the allied powers.

‘ If Louis the Eighteenth had learned wisdom from the fate of his brother, and had

accepted the constitution which was offered him by the French Senate, Lafayette and other friends of freedom would have assisted him in governing France wisely, and making himself beloved; but, instead of that, he began his reign by refusing to accept a constitution; and though he granted the people a charter (which is a written promise that they should have certain rights and privileges), he was all the time trying to bring things back to what they were before the revolution. This displeased the people, and kept all true patriots away from him. Lafayette went once to court, but though he was received very kindly by the royal family, he never went again. The bad conduct and extreme folly of the Bourbons made them so unpopular, that Napoleon, who from his little island, was watching all they did, thought he might venture back to France, and take the supreme command once more. As soon as he appeared, the people forgot his faults, and, remembering only his military glory, received him with acclamations of joy; the Bourbons fled before him, and he was once more master of France.'

'That was a grand stroke of his!' said Henry. 'I have read an account somewhere of his march to Paris, and how all the soldiers, sent against him, declared for him, and accompanied him in triumph through the country.'

‘Yes, Napoleon’s return to Paris, in 1815, was a most remarkable and brilliant event; more like a scene in a play than like real life. But though the French people had received him again as their Emperor, the allied sovereigns were more opposed to him than ever. He had now broken his faith with them again, and they all resolved to unite for his destruction. In this difficult situation, Napoleon tried to make all parties his friends, to collect around him those whose influence he was afraid of; and, in order to make the people support him, he declared himself willing to allow them a share in the government. Some of the liberal party joined him; but Lafayette had no belief in the sincerity of his promises, and therefore he would not go near him, not even when the Emperor sent his brother Joseph to request an interview. After being much solicited, he ended the conversation by declaring he would never meet Napoleon, unless it should be as a representative, freely chosen by the people.’

‘That was very spirited and independent indeed,’ said Mrs. Moreton; ‘I wonder how that haughty Emperor could bear it.’

‘He was obliged to bear many things now, that he would not have borne before,’ continued her husband. ‘He even allowed the French people to have a Chamber of Representatives, or Deputies as they call them; and to win over

Lafayette to his cause, he offered him the first peerage in his new Chamber of Peers. But our noble-minded hero, true to his principles, was not to be bribed by any thing that Napoleon could bestow. Being however freely elected a representative of the people, in that character he met the Emperor for the first time after his return from Elba. Anxious to gain him over to his side, Napoleon spoke to him very graciously ; but Lafayette received all his advances coldly, and showed plainly that he had no confidence in him. It was well he did so ; for he was immediately obliged to vote against the wishes of the Emperor, in order to prevent his ruling the whole Chamber of Representatives.

‘ When Napoleon had established his new government at home, and mustered all the forces that his exhausted empire could supply, he joined his army on the frontiers, and there fought the celebrated battle of Waterloo. After a long and desperate conflict, the French army was completely defeated, and Napoleon fled to Paris, a ruined and desperate man. He now determined to dissolve the Chamber of Deputies, take the whole power into his own hands, and make one more bloody struggle to keep the crown of France.

‘ Lafayette was warned of his intentions, and that in two hours the Chamber of Deputies would cease to exist. There was not a mo-

ment to lose ; the Emperor or the Chamber must fall that morning. As soon therefore as they met, Lafayette, who had not spoken in a public assembly in France for twenty years, stood forth the courageous champion of the nation's rights, and warned the members of the dangers that threatened them. The resolutions he proposed were agreed to by both chambers, that is, by the Peers, as well as by the Representatives of the people. This not only saved them from being dispersed, but made them, instead of Napoleon, the ruling power, at that moment.

‘ It is said, that when the Emperor heard that Lafayette was speaking, he became greatly agitated ; for he well knew that the principles of that true patriot were always opposed to him. It was a time of great difficulty ; the chambers had to contend against the invasion of victorious armies, and against the selfish views of the Emperor, rendered desperate by reverses. They wished to preserve France from foreign foes, and to get rid of their tyrant at home. After much debate, and many eloquent speeches, it was determined to send a deputation to the Emperor, demanding his abdication. When this was obtained, Lafayette was one of a committee, appointed by the Chamber, to wait upon Napoleon, and thank him in the name of the nation.’



‘ Ah,’ said Mrs. Moreton, ‘ how little did he think, when he was dictating to half of Europe, and ruling France with absolute power, that the peaceable farmer of La Grange would ever be thanking him, in the name of the French people, for an abdication that he was forced to submit to ! ’

‘ This conqueror of nations,’ continued Mr. Moreton, ‘ was now indebted to Lafayette for his personal safety ; for it was he who moved, in the Chamber, that the life of Napoleon should be protected by the nation ; and when he was sent to treat with the allied sovereigns, he indignantly refused a proposal for giving up to them the person of the dethroned Emperor. Lafayette exerted himself in vain to prevent the capital from being a second time captured by foreign enemies. When he returned to Paris, it was already in their possession. The room in which the representatives met was shut up, and the door guarded by a Prussian soldier. Lafayette and many other members met at the house of their president and signed a paper, in which they protested against these doings, and then went quietly to their houses.

‘ Lafayette knew it was in vain to contend any further against despotic power ; he therefore retired to La Grange, and waited for better times. The allied sovereigns put Louis the Eighteenth again on the throne of France ; and gave the people the same charter they had

before. This allowed them a Chamber of Deputies and some other privileges. After 1817 Lafayette was twice elected a member of the Chamber of Deputies ; in every thing he did he kept steadily to his old principles, and opposed the encroachments of the Bourbons upon the liberties of the people, as much as he could without disturbing the peace of the country. He knew the time was not come for making a successful effort to regain their rights, and therefore he never encouraged the people in useless resistance to the established government.

‘ We will now leave him in the enjoyment of his farm and estate at La Grange ; for I have nothing more to tell you about him, till we come to his visit to this country in 1824, and that we will begin to-morrow evening.’

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### EIGHTH EVENING.

‘ Now for Lafayette’s visit to this country ! ’ said Maria, as the door closed on the younger children, and the elder ones drew round their father to hear the rest of his narrative.

‘ And now for “ Welcome ! welcome ! welcome ! bang, bang, hang,” shouted Henry

in tones too loud to be agreeable ; and whilst Maria and Jane tried in vain to quiet him, he was requesting his father to give him a signal whenever he wanted a salute for Lafayette, and he would roar like the cannon. The company begged to be spared such *illustrations* of the story, and when Henry's boisterous mirth was suppressed, Mr. Moreton began.

‘ Now that you know something of the life of Lafayette, you will be able to understand why his visit to this country was such a remarkable event, both to the Nation and to the Nation's Guest.’

Jane said she never knew what those words meant, ‘ Nation's Guest.’

‘ *Guest*, replied her father, ‘ means *visitor* ; and as Lafayette was invited to this country by Congress, which represents all the United States, he was considered as the visitor or guest of the whole nation. He enjoyed a singular distinction in coming as he did, to visit a whole people, and in hearing “ the voice of gratitude and admiration which rose to greet him from every city, every town, every village, every heart, of this wide land.” His reception in this country was a splendid reward of public services ; such an one as never happened before, and probably never will again ; for the circumstances that led to it are of rare occurrence. That a man, in a distant

country, should have assisted in laying the foundations of a great nation, and that he should have it in his power, nearly fifty years afterwards, to visit the posterity of those he served, and witness the entire success of his early labors and sacrifices, is most extraordinary. And when we consider the great variety of scenes through which he passed, between his first and last visit to America, the dangers he escaped, the sufferings he endured, the important part he took in the struggles of his own country for freedom, and the perfect integrity and consistency which have regulated his whole life, we may congratulate ourselves on having entertained, as the Nation's Guest, the most remarkable man that lives, or perhaps ever has lived. If there never was such a *guest* before, so neither was there ever such a nation to act the part of *host*. Here it was the *nation* who welcomed him ; in any other country it would have been only the *rulers*. In no other country of the world are the poorer classes of society so well educated, and therefore no where else could merit like Lafayette's have been so generally appreciated. On every account, therefore, his visit to this country is one of those extraordinary events which can never happen but once, and which, the more it is considered, the more remarkable it appears.'

' So it does,' said Maria ; ' I never understood before why it was thought so much of.

I do not wonder now that people were so eager to see him. I am glad I can recollect exactly how he looked on Boston Common. He seemed to me much younger than he could have been, if it was fifty years since his first visit.'

'It was forty-seven years, and he was about sixty-seven when he was last here ; but, considering all he had gone through, he was remarkably vigorous and youthful in his appearance, and he bore the fatigues of his triumphal progress through this country most wonderfully.'

'What was there to tire him ?' said Henry ; 'he did not walk from place to place.'

Maria asked if people could not be tired with riding, as well as walking ; Henry said, he did not know, he never was tired of riding.

'You never took a long journey,' said his father, 'or you would know. Lafayette often travelled from five in the morning till twelve at night ; and he was constantly receiving addresses and making speeches ; attending great dinners and balls ; and sitting for hours together in crowded rooms, or standing in the midst of a multitude, saying something appropriate to every one that approached him, and having his hand shaken by every body, till his whole arm and shoulder were made lame by it. If he had not possessed a very strong constitution, and felt the greatest interest and pleasure in being

so cordially welcomed to America, he never could have borne the fatigue as he did.'

'Well,' said Henry, 'we shall now hear what the fuss was that tired him so much. Had he just landed, when I saw him in Boston?'

'No; he arrived in New York, and spent four days there before he came to our city. There was one mark of attention paid him by our government, which he modestly declined. Congress offered to send out a frigate to bring him to this country; but he chose to come with less parade in an American merchant ship. He accordingly embarked at Havre, on board the *Cadmus*, Captain Allyn, accompanied by his son George Washington, and his secretary Mr. Levasseur; and, after a short and pleasant passage, arrived in New York harbour on the 15th of August, 1824. Great preparations were making, in that city, for his reception; but as he arrived on Sunday, he was invited to land on Staten Island, to spend the night at Vice-President Tomkins's seat, and defer his grand entry into New York, till the next day, when every thing would be in readiness to do him honor.

'The news of the General's arrival quickly spread over the great city; and the bay was soon covered with boats, carrying crowds of citizens to Staten Island, all desirous of being among the first, to bid him welcome to our shores.

‘ Very early the next morning, the beautiful harbour of New York became a brilliant and animated picture ; boats of all sizes and descriptions, gaily decorated with flags, and filled with people dressed in their holiday clothes, were passing about in every direction. A large deputation of civil, military, and naval officers waited upon Lafayette at Staten Island, and conducted him on board the steam-boat Chancellor Livingston, whilst the cannon of *Fort Lafayette* fired a salute. On board the steam-boat, he was received by a numerous assemblage of the dignitaries and first citizens of New York. Among these were some of his fellow-soldiers in the revolutionary war, whom he embraced with deep emotion. Whilst his old and new friends were expressing their delight at seeing him in this country, a band of music struck up a very appropriate French air, one that is inexpressibly dear to the heart of every Frenchman ; it is known by the first line of the words that belong to it, which mean in English, “ Where can one be better than in the bosom of one’s family ? ” A procession of large steam-boats, elegantly decorated, and filled with a gaily dressed multitude, escorted Lafayette to the city, whilst innumerable smaller boats covered the waters on every side. When he landed at the Battery, the air was filled with sounds of blessing and of

welcome, from thousands that were waiting to receive him ; whilst the cannon of all the forts and men of war, in the harbour, added their thundering applause.

‘The *Lafayette Guards*, in an elegant uniform, each with a picture of the General on his breast, escorted him along the line of militia that was drawn up to receive him. Attended by a numerous and brilliant train, he marched along the front of the troops, receiving their salutations, hearing and seeing at every step, the words “Welcome, Lafayette.” Numerous carriages were in waiting. General Lafayette was seated in an elegant car drawn by four white horses, and proceeded through an immense crowd to the City Hall. All the streets through which he passed were decorated with flags and drapery ; and from the windows, flowers and wreaths were showered upon him.

‘He was received at the City Hall by the Mayor, who made him a speech, which he answered in a very appropriate manner ; then the troops filed off before him, and he was conducted to the great saloon of the City Hall which was opened to the public for two hours, and crowded by all sorts of people, eager to see and to speak with the *Guest of the Nation*.

‘Those who had known him during the revolutionary war, were rejoiced to see once



more their old companion in arms ; and feeble old men seemed animated with new vigor, in talking over with him the scenes of their youth. Those who were born since that eventful period, looked with love and reverence on one who had fought by the side of Washington, and whose name they had so often heard from the lips of their fathers. Men of color eagerly expressed to him their gratitude for the exertions he had made in favor of their oppressed race. Laborers and mechanics, whose hard hands proved the nature of their occupations, stopped before him and exclaimed with enthusiasm, " We also belong to the ten millions who are indebted to you for liberty and happiness." Many who wished to speak to him were so choked by their emotion that they could not utter a word ; others who were prevented by the crowd from approaching him, consoled themselves by shaking hands with his son, and pouring out to him their expressions of love and admiration for his father. Mothers presented their young children to the venerable patriot, and asked him to bless them, after which they pressed them to their own hearts with redoubled tenderness.

‘ Every word, look, and gesture of Lafayette showed the deep feeling, with which he entered into these scenes, and reciprocated the emotions of those around him. It was with difficulty he could be withdrawn from this eager multi-

tude ; but at five o'clock he was conducted to the City Hotel, which had been very handsomely fitted up for his reception. The national standard, waving over the door, marked the residence of the Nation's Guest, and a grand dinner closed the festivities of the day.'

'Well, Henry,' said his mother, 'do n't you think such a day of excitement as that might well tire any man?'

But Henry had so little experience of the fatigue that is caused by powerful emotion, or a rapid succession of thoughts, that he could not believe much in Lafayette's situation requiring any uncommon strength of body ; so he merely answered 'I do n't know,' and begged his father to go on.

'After four days spent in seeing sights, receiving deputations from various parts of the Union, hearing and making speeches, attending the meetings of learned societies, and devoting two hours each day to the public in the saloon of the City Hall, Lafayette left New York for Boston. Every arrangement that could render his journey agreeable and expeditious, was carefully attended to ; he was accompanied all the way by a party of gentlemen from New York ; and numerous and excellent relays of horses were always in readiness. Notwithstanding this, he was five days and almost five nights in travelling two hundred miles.'

'How could that be?' exclaimed Henry,

this sword, which will be the most precious of legacies, if you confirm the gift."

'The General returned it immediately, saying, "Take it, keep it carefully, that it may serve in your hands to defend those rights, which it so gloriously helped to acquire in the hands of your father." The young man received the sword with joy, and left the room, pronouncing with much emotion the names of Lafayette and his father.'

'What an affecting incident to begin the day with!' said Mrs. Moreton, 'and how many such he met with! I have often thought that there never was an occasion of public rejoicing, in which there was so much genuine, heartfelt emotion, and personal affection.'

'There certainly never was,' replied Mr. Moreton. 'It was an occasion too, on which all the party-feeling which divides Americans, was swallowed up in one universal sentiment of love and gratitude to him who was equally the friend of all. It turned people's minds away from the low squabbles of caucuses, the contests of elections, the struggles for places, and dissensions in politics; it carried them back to those early days, about which there is but one opinion. We could not look on Lafayette, one of the great actors in our revolution, without feeling that those times are brought nearer to us, and being forcibly reminded of the virtues and perils of

our forefathers ; nor without learning to prize more dearly than ever those free institutions which we owe to their valor and their wisdom.'

'I should think,' said Maria, 'that every body must have felt particularly good on such an occasion.'

'I believe they did,' replied her father ; 'and an elegant writer said at the time, "It makes a holiday of kind and generous feelings in the hearts of the multitudes that throng his way, as he moves in triumphal procession from city to city."'

Jane and Henry looked as if they were tired of these remarks, and wished that Lafayette would now move into Boston. Their father understood their countenances, and hastened to resume his narrative.

'The whole road from Roxbury to Boston was lined with people on foot and on horseback. Lafayette was in an open carriage, drawn by four horses, and attended by a long line of carriages and horsemen. The truckmen dressed in their white frocks formed a large body of well mounted cavalry ; but Henry will like best to hear of the artillery company which ran in front of the procession, for that was composed of sixty small boys, with two pieces of cannon proportioned to their strength. Every now and then, they halted and fired a salute from their battery ; then they ran on again as fast as the crowd

would let them, took another position, and fired another salute.'

'That was fine fun!' exclaimed Henry; 'how I wish I had been old enough to have been one of them! How old were they?'

'They were from twelve to fourteen, and performed their part very well. The crowd was so great that the procession was two hours in going two miles. At the entrance of the city, on Boston Neck, there was a very large triumphal arch erected. Under that arch the Honorable Josiah Quincy, who was then Mayor of Boston, met General Lafayette. He was attended by the corporation of the city, in other carriages, but was himself alone in an open barouche, which drew up by the side of the General's. Both rose to salute each other, and there continued standing whilst the Mayor made an address,\* on the part of the citizens of Boston.

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\* ADDRESS OF JOSIAH QUINCY, MAYOR OF THE CITY OF BOSTON, TO GENERAL LAFAYETTE, AUGUST 24, 1824.

'GENERAL LAFAYETTE,

THE citizens of Boston welcome you on your return to the United States; mindful of your early zeal in the cause of American Independence, grateful for your distinguished share in the perils and glories of its achievement. When, urged by a generous sympathy, you first landed on these shores,

‘ Mr. Levasseur, in his account of Lafayette in America, gives an interesting description of

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you found a people engaged in an arduous and eventful struggle for liberty, with apparently inadequate means, and amidst dubious omens. — After the lapse of nearly half a century, you find the same people, prosperous beyond all hope, and all precedent; — their liberty secure; sitting in their strength, without fear and without reproach.

‘ In your youth you joined the standard of three millions of people, raised in an unequal and uncertain conflict. — In your advanced age you return, and are met by ten millions of people, their descendants, whose hearts throng hither to greet your approach, and to rejoice in it.

‘ This is not the movement of a turbulent populace, excited by the fresh laurels of some recent conqueror. — It is a grave, moral, intellectual impulse.

‘ A whole people in the enjoyment of freedom, as perfect as the condition of our nature permits, recur with gratitude, increasing with the daily increasing sense of their blessings, to the memory of those, who by their labors, and in their blood, laid the foundation of our liberties.

‘ Your name, Sir, — the name of Lafayette, is associated with the most perilous and the most glorious periods of our revolution; with the imperishable names of Washington, and of that numerous host of heroes which adorn the proudest archives in American history, and are engraven in indelible traces on the hearts of the whole American people. — Accept then, Sir, in the sincere spirit in which it is offered, this simple tribute to your virtues.

‘ Again, Sir, the citizens of Boston bid you welcome to the cradle of American Independence; and to scenes consecrated with the blood shed by the earliest martyrs in the cause.

this ceremony, which I will translate for you. "The calm and modest demeanor of the General, during this speech, the fine countenance of Mr. Quincy, which kindled as he spoke, the triumphal arch which rose above them, together with the attitude and solemn silence of so many thousand citizens, seemed, to my astonished gaze, the *beau idéal* of a popular festival, a republican triumph." "

Jane asked the meaning of *beau idéal*, and her father told her it meant a degree of beauty that one can imagine, but greater than one has ever seen in real life.

'Well, father,' said Henry, 'what came next?'

'Lafayette's reply to Mr. Quincy's speech; after which the Mayor got into the carriage of the General, and they rode together through the city. The windows of the houses by which he passed, were filled with people, and the streets were decorated with flags, arches, and trophies, in honor of the hero of the day. At last the procession reached the Common, where all the little children belonging to the various schools in Boston were standing in two very long lines to receive him; each with a ribbon, on which was a printed likeness of Lafayette.'

'Yes,' said Maria; 'I well remember standing there, and straining my eyes to catch the first glimpse of him. I knew him directly,

because some one told me he would be without a hat. Why did he ride in the burning sunshine without his hat, papa ?’

‘He kept his head uncovered as a continued bow to all the people who were shouting their welcome, and waving their hats, and saluting him all the time. He could do no less, I am sure ; and there is no doubt his feelings were so much interested, that he did not once think of his face, whether it was scorched or not. If Henry had been old enough to understand what it all meant, and feel interested in the occasion, he would not have perceived that his legs were tired ; but he was too young to know much about it.’

‘I am very glad, however, that I was there,’ said Henry ; ‘and that I recollect so well how he looked. I would stand a whole day to see him again, now I know all about him ; and if my legs ached ever so much, I would not complain.’

‘I dare say not,’ replied his father ; ‘but as you will probably never see him again, you must treasure the recollection you have of him, for you will never look upon any one whose life has been so remarkable.

‘The General passed very slowly between the double row of children, whilst they raised their little hands and shouted, “Welcome, Lafayette,” with all their hearts. One very little girl advanced from the ranks towards the



General ; and being lifted up, she placed a wreath of evergreen on his head, embraced him affectionately, and called him father.

‘ After thus passing over the Common, the General joined the procession at the bottom of Park-street, and proceeded to the State-house, where the Governor received him. At the moment that General Lafayette and Governor Eustis met, the troops fired a volley, and the national standard was displayed from the dome of the State-house. Lafayette was then conducted to the Senate-chamber, which was filled with the members of various societies, public characters, and distinguished citizens ; and an address of welcome was pronounced on the part of the government of Massachusetts. After this, the time was devoted to more intimate and familiar expressions of regard. When two hours had been thus employed, the General was conducted by the Mayor to a large house, at the corner of Park-street, which had been fitted up for his use during his stay in Boston. At a late hour he partook of a grand dinner at the Exchange Coffee-House with the Governor and his staff, the Mayor and corporation, and all the other public authorities. The dining-hall was richly decorated with flags and trophies, expressive of the gratitude of America for the assistance of France, as well as in memory of Lafayette’s individual services.’

‘I am afraid,’ said Henry, ‘that Lafayette’s reception in Boston was not so grand as in New York; for a procession of steam-boats must have been much finer than a procession of carriages.’

‘And suppose it was not,’ said his father; ‘what then?’

‘Why, then I should be sorry,’ replied Henry; ‘for I want our city of Boston to do more than any other; don’t you, father?’

‘Why really, Henry, it never entered my head before to make any comparison; but if it had, I hope I should not have had any such preference. I hope I should have felt too much like an American, to care which of our cities gave our common friend the most showy reception, so long as all proved their love and gratitude by doing the best they could.’

‘Do n’t you think, papa, that we ought to love our own city and our own state better than any other?’ asked Maria.

‘We are so constituted, my dear child, that we cannot help being most interested by what we think and know the most of. It is natural and proper that we should love our own family better than any other, and our neighbours better than strangers, and the place we live in better than one afar off; but as this is what we are always inclined to do, we should be careful not to carry our partialities too far, or they will make us illiberal in our feelings, and unjust in our

judgments. And on any occasion which equally concerns the whole nation, we ought to put aside our attachment to one part of it, and cherish a more general interest. I would have the people of Boston as much gratified by the reception given to the Nation's Guest, in New York, as here, and feel as if they had a part in all that was done for him, from one end of the Union to the other.'

'Certainly,' said Mrs. Moreton, 'they ought to be ; and the inhabitants of a street that had no triumphal arch, might as well be jealous of one that had, as one State rival another on such a national jubilee. What pleases me particularly, in reflecting upon Lafayette's reception in different places, is the appropriateness of the mode to each place. In New York, where steam-boats were first used, it was particularly, proper to make them a part of the show ; and in Boston, which is remarkable for its schools, it was equally so to let the children unite in welcoming the hero of the day.'

'Indeed it was,' said Maria ; 'I never thought of that before. Does not that reconcile you, Henry, to the New-Yorkers having the procession of steam-boats ?'

Henry said it did ; but he looked very grave at learning for the first time that a Boston boy could love Boston too well. Jane who did not understand much of what was now said, changed the conversation by asking how long Lafayette staid in Boston.

‘He remained here,’ said her father, ‘from the 24th to the 31st of August. The day after his arrival, he attended Commencement at Cambridge; and those who were present on that spirit-stirring occasion can never forget the highly eloquent and feeling manner in which he was addressed by President Kirkland.

‘The day after, he attended the meeting of the *Phi Beta Kappa* Society; on which occasion Mr. Edward Everett, who was then a Professor in Harvard University, delivered a very eloquent oration; the concluding paragraph moved every heart, and made the tears roll down the cheeks of the hero whom he addressed. As it is written in a style of noble simplicity, which children can understand, as well as grown people, I will read the passage to you as soon as the lights come.’

Maria helped her mother to light the astral lamp, and then her father read as follows:

“Welcome, friend of our fathers, to our shores! Happy are our eyes that behold those venerable features. Enjoy a triumph, such as never conqueror or monarch enjoyed, the assurance that throughout America, there is not a bosom, which does not beat with joy and gratitude at the sound of your name. You have already met and saluted, or will soon meet, the few that remain of the ardent patriots, prudent counsellors, and brave warriors, with whom you were associated in achieving

our liberty. But you have looked round in vain for the faces of many, who would have lived years of pleasure on a day like this, with their old companion in arms and brother in peril. Lincoln, and Greene, and Knox, and Hamilton, are gone; the heroes of Saratoga and Yorktown have fallen, before the only foe they could not meet. Above all, the first of heroes and of men, the friend of your youth, the more than friend of his country, rests in the bosom of the soil he redeemed. On the banks of his Potomac, he lies in glory and peace. You will revisit the hospitable shades of Mount Vernon, but him whom you venerated as we did, you will not meet at its door. His voice of consolation, which reached you in the Austrian dungeons, cannot now break its silence, to bid you welcome to his own roof. But the grateful children of America will bid you welcome in his name. Welcome, thrice welcome to our shores! and whithersoever throughout the limits of the continent your course shall take you, the ear that hears you shall bless you, the eye that sees you shall bear witness to you, and every tongue exclaim, with heartfelt joy, 'Welcome, welcome, Lafayette!''

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## NINTH EVENING.

‘THE rest of the time,’ said Mr. Moreton, ‘that Lafayette was in Boston, was chiefly spent in visiting the Navy-yard, and Bunker Hill, with other places celebrated in the history of our revolutionary war ; in reviewing troops, dining with the governor, visiting the elder President Adams at Quincy, and attending balls and parties in Boston. At the end of the seven days that he spent in our city, he was so fatigued that he begged to be allowed to depart without ceremony, and without any crowd gathering round his door to see him go. Accordingly our citizens showed their true love and respect for their guest, by staying away and allowing him to leave Boston as privately as he wished.’

‘Where did Lafayette go from here?’ asked Jane.

‘He went first to Lexington and Concord, which places he was particularly desirous of visiting. Does either of you know why he was interested in going there?’ said Mr. Moreton, looking at Henry and Jane.

Henry eagerly replied, ‘I know, father ; it is because there the first blood was shed in the revolution.’ ‘Yes,’ said Maria ; ‘there sixty farmers stood the fire of eight hundred English soldiers.’

‘And returned it too,’ continued Mr. More-

ton. 'When Lafayette was at Lexington, a young man presented himself to him with a rudely formed, rusty musket in his hand, which he showed to the General, telling him it was from that piece the first fire was returned to the English, on the field of Lexington. "My father bore it," said the young man; "and on the 19th of April, 1775, it began, in his hands, the work which you and Washington so gloriously finished." Lafayette and all the gentlemen with him, looked at the musket with great interest, and each one desired to take it in his own hands. On returning it to its owner, the General advised him to have his father's name, and the date of the action, put on the stock of the gun, and to keep it in a box as a valuable relic.

'All the militia of the neighbourhood were assembled at Lexington, near the little pyramid which is erected there to the memory of those who fell in that first engagement with the British. When Lafayette arrived, he alighted to read the names of the eight sufferers and the inscription on the monument, whilst two aged men, who had been actors in the scene, related to him every particular of it. When they spoke of the neighbours and friends who fell by their sides, their emotion quite overpowered them; they turned their tearful eyes upon the monument, and there was a solemn silence for some moments. Then one of them said,

"We still weep for our friends, but we do not deplore them; they died for their country and for liberty!" At these words *country* and *liberty* the people around were deeply moved, and filled the air with shouts of, "Long live Lafayette." The militia filed off before the pyramid and the General, lowering their standards to these *two monuments* of the revolution. After this, Lafayette and his friends proceeded to Concord, where another and a different scene awaited them. The inhabitants of the village, and the surrounding country were assembled on the public square to greet the Nation's Guest. And here the ladies of the place had prepared an entertainment for him, which was served under a tent so adorned with evergreens and flowers, that it looked like a bower. Lafayette and his friends were seated at a table spread with delicacies; they were surrounded by ladies only, and waited upon by young girls dressed in white, with garlands on their heads. After giving as much time as he could spare to this *fête*, the General took leave of his fair friends in his most gracious way.

'He next went to Marblehead, Salem, and Newburyport, on his way to Portsmouth, to which place he had been invited by the state of New Hampshire. At Marblehead, where he breakfasted, he was met without the town by the pupils of eleven public, and twenty private



schools, amounting in all to nine hundred children. A deputation of one from each class approached Lafayette's carriage and presented him with an address of thanks for the services he had rendered their forefathers.

‘ Great preparations had been made in Salem for the reception of the Nation's Guest ; and though the weather proved unfavorable, a numerous cavalcade of citizens came out to meet him, and the road was lined with troops. Salutes of artillery, and the ringing of bells, announced Lafayette's entrance into the city ; and though the rain fell in torrents, the streets were filled with people, anxious to see the friend of America, and to express to him their love and gratitude. The venerable hero left his carriage, and walked through the town, that he might gratify the inhabitants by passing under all the triumphal arches that had been erected in honor of him, and read the various mottos that were inscribed on them. The dining-hall was elegantly decorated by the ladies of Salem ; and opposite Lafayette's seat, in the midst of garlands and trophies, were these words, “ *Lafayette in America. — Where can one be better than in the bosom of his family ?* ” Some of his old companions in arms were seated beside him, and claimed the privilege of waiting upon him ; and when his politeness would decline their attentions, they gayly reminded him, that they had acquired

the right of serving him, at Yorktown, where he had not refused their services.

‘ After dining in Salem, Lafayette and his friends proceeded to Newburyport to lodge ; and though the weather continued to be very unpleasant, the General could not persuade the good citizens of Salem not to escort him ; they insisted on galloping, sword in hand, by the side of his carriage, for nearly nine miles, through muddy roads and torrents of rain. It was late at night before the travellers reached Newburyport, but every one was on the watch for their arrival, and the rejoicings were as great as if it had been mid-day. Lafayette was conducted to Tracy’s Inn, where he occupied the same chamber, and reposed on the same bed, that his adopted father and friend General Washington had used, thirty-five years before. The whole furniture of the room had been preserved with the greatest care, just as it was when Washington occupied it ; and nothing could have added so much to the interest the owner felt in it, as its being now used by Lafayette.

‘ Nothing remarkable occurred on the road to Portsmouth ; but on approaching that place, Lafayette was met by almost the whole population. The procession formed to accompany him into the town was two miles long. A thousand children from different schools were ranged along the road in two rows, through

which the procession passed ; and though the little creatures had no covering on their heads but wreaths of flowers, and it was raining fast, they all kept their places, and gave their cheerful shouts of " Welcome, Lafayette. " "

' To be sure,' said Henry ; ' who would mind the rain on such an occasion.'

' Not you, I am very certain,' replied Maria ; ' for I really think you like better to play out in the rain, than in fair weather ; but I pity the little girls for being obliged to stand in rain and mud, and I hope none of them took cold.'

Henry, who had no sympathy with the little girls of Portsmouth, begged his father to go on and tell what was done by the grown-up people.

' The most interesting circumstance of Lafayette's short visit to Portsmouth was his being recognised by an old revolutionary soldier, who, with tears in his eyes, described aloud the many favors he had received from *the Marquis*. This recital interested those around very much, but the General was so much embarrassed by it that he interrupted him. An address, a visit to the Navy-yard, a grand dinner, and a ball, filled up every hour of the afternoon and evening. At midnight, instead of going to bed and sleeping after so much fatigue, the hero of the day was hurried back to Boston, where he only rested two hours, before he set out again for Hartford.

‘ At every town on the road, he was stopped to receive the testimonials of the people’s love and veneration. He was welcomed at Hartford by the whole population with the same enthusiasm that he had excited elsewhere. Whilst receiving and shaking hands with crowds of citizens in the hall of the State-house, old General Wadsworth presented himself to him, carrying in his hand the epaulettes and scarf which Lafayette wore at the battle of Brandywine, where you may recollect he was wounded ; the scarf still showed the marks of his blood. These relics had been carefully preserved by the family of an officer who served three years under Lafayette, and to whom they were given after the peace with England ; and the sight of them at this moment produced a deep emotion in the assembly.

‘ On leaving the State-house, he passed between rows of the children of the public schools, and received from them a gold medal on which were these words, “The children of Hartford to Lafayette, September 4th, 1824.” He there visited the Asylum for the Deaf and Dumb, reviewed the troops, took leave of the inhabitants of Hartford, and embarked on board a steam-boat which was to carry him to New York.’

‘ To New York ! ’ said Henry ; ‘ what did he go back there for ? ’

‘ New York was on his way to the other

large cities of the Union which he had not yet visited ; besides, he had not seen half the wonders of that prosperous city, nor received half the honors that were intended for him. As I cannot undertake to describe all the entertainments that were given him, I will endeavour to select what will most interest you.'

The children thought, at first, that they should like to hear every thing about Lafayette's visit, that could be told ; but when they saw their father turning over the leaves of two octavo volumes in French, and heard that a great part of these was an account of " Lafayette in America," by his secretary, Mr. Levasseur, they were satisfied to take their father's extracts.

' I think,' said Mr. Moreton to his wife, ' that the children will be best pleased to hear about the ball at Castle Garden ; suppose then I begin with that ? '

' It was, if I recollect right,' replied Mrs. Moreton, ' the most novel and splendid entertainment given him in this country ; but as the children are unacquainted with the form of the place and its situation, they cannot understand the peculiar attractions of the *fête*. For my own part, I must confess, I was more interested in the celebration of his birth-day by the Society of the Cincinnati than by the ball ; and I am sure Maria would like much to hear the old ballad, which was made upon Lafayette in 1792, when

he was confined in Olmütz, and which was sung upon this occasion.'

'That I should,' said Maria. 'Pray, papa, tell us about his birth-day, and please to begin with explaining who the Society of the Cincinnati are.'

'They are the officers of the Revolutionary army, who, after peace was concluded, formed themselves into a society for keeping up the memory of their patriotic exertions, and for providing assistance for any who might need the help of their richer brethren in arms. The members are now greatly reduced in number, and for the most part they are very old men. On public occasions they generally attend in a body, wearing a ribbon badge in the button-hole of their coats; and when they entertained Lafayette, they decorated him with the very ribbon which Washington had worn as a member of this society.'

'The 6th of September being Lafayette's birth-day, as many of the members of the Society of the Cincinnati as could attend, assembled on that day, and went in procession two and two, to the General's lodgings. Bent by age and infirmity, these venerable men supported each other by walking arm in arm, and endeavoured to make their tottering steps keep time with the military band that preceded them. At the door of the City Hotel, Lafayette was received into their ranks, and thence marched

with them to the hall where they were to dine. Though the streets were filled with people, the respect which was felt for this band of aged patriots, accompanied by their ancient companion in arms, the adopted son of their country, produced a solemn silence as they passed along. The dining-hall was ornamented with trophies of arms, and with sixty banners, on which were the names of the principal heroes who died for liberty during the revolutionary war. At table these old soldiers became very animated, and talked over former times, till they forgot their age and infirmities, in the pleasure of recounting past dangers with those who shared them. Their attention was however diverted from their old stories of the war, by the rising of a curtain at one end of the hall, which suddenly brought to view a large transparency, representing Washington and Lafayette, holding each other by the hand, before the altar of liberty, and receiving a civic wreath from a figure representing America. This sight produced fresh acclamations of delight from the company, which were only silenced by the voice of a general officer, who read aloud the very words used by General Washington in his *order of the day*, to thank the Baron Viomenil and the Marquis Lafayette for their gallant conduct in taking the two redoubts at Yorktown. Long and loud were the plaudits that followed the reading of this paper; and then

the company were again silenced by the singing of the old ballad which your mother spoke of, and which I will read to you from this newspaper.

“ As beside his cheerful fire,  
    ’Midst his happy family,  
Sat a venerable Sire,  
    Tears were starting in his eye ;  
Selfish blessings were forgot,  
While he thought on Fayette’s lot —  
Once so happy on our plains,  
Now in poverty and chains.

“ Fayette ! cried he, honor’d name !  
    Dear to these far distant shores !  
Fayette, fired by freedom’s flame,  
    Bled to make that freedom ours.  
What, alas ! for thee remains ;  
What but poverty and chains ?

“ Soldiers ! in the field of death  
    Was not Fayette foremost there ?  
Cold and shivering on the heath,  
    Did ye not his bounty share ?  
What for this your friend remains ;  
What but poverty and chains ?

“ Born to honor, ease, and wealth,  
    See him sacrifice them all ;  
Sacrificing even health  
    At our country’s glorious call !  
What reward for this remains ;  
What but poverty and chains ?

“ Thus, with laurels on his brow,  
    Belisarius begged for bread ;  
Thus, from Carthage forced to go,  
    Hannibal an exile fled,



Fayette now at once sustains  
Exile, poverty, and chains.

“Courage, child of Washington,  
Though thy fate disastrous seems ;  
We have seen the setting sun,  
Rise and burn with brighter beams.  
Thy country soon shall break thy chain,  
And take thee to her arms again.”

Maria liked the ballad so well that she resolved to find some tune that would suit it, and learn to sing it. As Henry did not care so much about such things as his elder sister, his father now told something on purpose to please him.

‘The French people who live in New York, gave a dinner to their great countryman, and they ornamented their table in quite a new way ; they had all up and down the middle of it something which you, Henry, would have liked much to see.’

‘What was it, father ? a procession of steam-boats, in miniature ?’

‘Oh, no, not the old story of the steam-boats ! It was a model of the great New York canal, with its bridges and locks, and filled with real water.’

‘O that must have been beautiful !’ exclaimed Henry ; ‘I wish I could have seen it. How big was it, father ?’

‘It was sixty feet long, and occupied a pret-

ty wide space on the table ; for the country through which it passes was represented on each side of it. There were trees and masses of rock, and green sods to represent meadows, with models of animals and houses.'

Jane and Henry agreed that this must have been the most curious and beautiful of all the sights that Lafayette had yet seen in America, and both hoped that it was preserved, and that they should see it whenever they went to New York ; but their father told them it was too large to be kept, and too coarsely done to be worth preserving. Mrs. Moreton hoped the children in New York were allowed to see it ; for she thought it was just fit to entertain them.

' Now, papa,' said Maria, ' I hope you will describe the ball at Castle Garden ; for I have seen a picture of that part of New York, and I think I can understand the situation. First, there is a beautiful mall next the sea, called the Battery ; then there is, rising out of the sea, some distance off, a round fort which is joined to the Battery by a bridge, and that round fort is called Castle Garden ; is it not ? '

' You are quite right, my child, and have a very clear idea of the place. That circular fort was originally built for defence ; but it is now used only as a place of amusement. The walls are high and furnished with galleries and seats on the top, and all round on the inside ;

whilst on the outside the sea washes their base. The circle formed by these walls is about six hundred feet, that is, about large enough for twenty common-sized houses to stand within it ; yet this whole space was covered in by a canvass roof, and converted into one grand saloon richly ornamented, and brilliantly illuminated. This temporary ceiling was supported, in the centre, by a column sixty feet high, and was hung with the flags of all nations tastefully arranged. Around the sides were thirteen columns with the arms of the first Thirteen States which formed the Union at the time of the revolution. Over the principal entrance was a triumphal arch of flowers ; and above this, was an enormous statue of Washington, resting upon two pieces of cannon. In the centre stood a figure representing the genius of America, holding a shield, on which were these words, " TO THE NATION'S GUEST." Opposite to the grand entrance, and raised on a platform, was a marquee richly ornamented, and intended to receive the General. On each side of it stood two pieces of cannon taken at Yorktown.

‘ Splendid as were the decorations of this immense saloon, I have heard some, who were present, admire the approach to it more. The bridge which joins it to the main land is three hundred feet long. This was covered with rich carpeting, and lined on each side with beautiful green trees. On the centre of the bridge,

there arose a pyramid, sixty-five feet high, covered with colored lamps ; and on its pinnacle was a brilliant star of light, in the midst of which blazed the name of "LAFAYETTE." Over this bridge the General was conducted to the saloon. As he entered, the band struck up, " See, the conquering hero comes ! " and murmurs of suppressed applause accompanied him to his seat under the marquee. Nearly six thousand persons were accommodated in this vast amphitheatre ; but thousands more were about the battery, or on the water in boats, longing for a peep into this enchanted castle ; and to gratify these it was so contrived that canvass curtains should roll up, as if by magic, at the moment of Lafayette's entrance, and display the brilliant scene of which he was the object. It was a fine, warm, moon-light night, and the reflection from the water, with the constant passing of boats, added to the novelty and pleasure of the entertainment. A few minutes after Lafayette was seated, a large transparency was suddenly uncovered before him, which produced in him a more lively and tender emotion than all the rest of the decorations. It was a picture of his own house at La Grange, with its fine gothic towers and moat. Underneath were these words, "*Here is his home.*" As the entertainment was to be a ball, several attempts were made to form quadrilles, and dances were begun ;

but every time the Nation's Guest moved, the sets were broken up to follow him, and nothing was thought of but the privilege of being near him whom every one delighted to honor. Lafayette continued in this gay scene till two o'clock in the morning, when he stepped directly on board the steam-boat that was prepared to convey him and a large party of his friends up the Hudson. I have been told that many ladies and gentlemen, in their ball dresses, could not resist the desire they felt to accompany Lafayette; and that, all unprepared as they were, they embarked with him and spent the remainder of the night on board the boat. In vain did the General seek a little repose in the state-room allotted him; for, besides the usual noises on board a crowded boat, he was disturbed by the voices of the crew, exerting themselves to push the boat off an oyster-bank, on which she stuck fast, for three hours. At the first dawn of day, Lafayette and his son were again on deck, admiring the fine scenery of the Hudson, and listening to revolutionary stories, told by some old soldiers, who had a legend for every point they passed.'

'I wish I knew all those legends,' said Henry.

'You will read the best of them when you are older, in the various histories of the American revolution, and in the lives of Washington and other heroes of those days.'

‘Lafayette landed at West Point, where he was received with military honors, and accompanied to the Military Academy by a long train of ladies and all the inhabitants of the neighbourhood, who were eager to testify their attachment to the friend of their country. Owing to the delay on the oyster-bank, and the time spent at West Point, Lafayette did not reach Newburgh, where dinner had been waiting for him many hours, till after dark; he then rode rapidly through the streets to the hotel, where he was to dine with the principal inhabitants. Whilst he was at table, the news spread through the town, that the General was to leave immediately after dinner. On this a great concourse of people assembled tumultuously before the hotel, and a thousand confused voices shouted out reproaches upon those who would deprive the citizens of Newburgh of the pleasure of seeing him whom they had looked for so long. They exclaimed that he had arrived after dark, no one could see him, their wives and children could not look upon him, and he should not depart till the next morning. The police officers and militia had a violent struggle, at the door of the hotel, to prevent the crowd from rushing tumultuously into the dining-hall. At last the Mayor, who was at the table with Lafayette, was informed that the disorder in the streets was becoming serious; on this he

took the Nation's Guest by the hand, and, preceded by two torches, led him out on a piazza which overlooked the street. The moment he appeared, the air was filled with shouts of welcome and applause ; but, on a sign from the Mayor that he wished to address them, the crowd became silent, and he said, " Gentlemen, do you wish to distress the Nation's Guest ? " He was answered by cries of " No ! no ! no ! " — " Do you wish that Lafayette should be deprived of his liberty, in a country indebted to him for its freedom ? " — " No ! no ! no ! " — " Listen then to what I am going to say, and do not force me to make use of the law to restore order." There was then profound silence ; and the Mayor went on ; " Your friend is expected at Albany, he is engaged to be there before to-morrow evening ; he has already been delayed three hours by an accident ; if you keep him here till to-morrow, you will deprive him of the pleasure of visiting all the other towns which expect him on his passage, and you will make him break all his engagements ; do you wish to give this pain ? " — " No ! no ! no ! " and the air rang with applause. Lafayette then addressed a few words of thanks to the crowd, which were received with the greatest enthusiasm. After this the people remained tranquil, but continued in the streets ; and when Lafayette came out of the hotel, to go away, a

few citizens advanced to speak to him, and said it depended upon him entirely to console the inhabitants of Newburgh, and that he might do it by only delaying his departure a quarter of an hour. "Our wives and children are assembled very near here, in a hall prepared for your reception ; just come and show yourself to them, if only for a few minutes, and we shall all be made happy." It was impossible to resist such a touching request. He and his friends entered this hall, filled with ladies and young girls dressed for a ball. They had given up the hope of seeing their long expected guest ; they were therefore most agreeably surprised, and in their joy and delight they all gathered round him and showered over him the wreaths and flowers that had adorned themselves. On leaving the hall, the General walked through a double row of men all the way to the river-side, where the steam-boat waited for him, and met at every step with marks of respectful attachment from the good people of Newburgh, who, notwithstanding his assurances to the contrary, feared they had occasioned him some inconvenience.'

'A very touching incident indeed,' said Mrs. Moreton, wiping away the moisture of her eyes ; 'I do not remember hearing of it at the time ; but this account of it in Mr. Levasseur's narrative must be very gratifying to the people there. How seldom is it that so much



real and tender feeling is mixed with public rejoicings and national honors ! yet wherever Lafayette went, he was received by hearts overflowing with genuine emotion.'

'That is what makes his visit to this country such a remarkable event resumed Mr. Moreton ; there never was any thing like it in the world. It was an universal jubilee of good feelings, and I hope we may be the better for it, all the rest of our lives. I have so much pleasure in recalling the particulars of it, that I should like to translate to the children the whole of Mr. Levasseur's account ; but I know Henry and Jane prefer my reading it by myself, and then telling them the most remarkable particulars.'

'Because,' said Jane, kissing her father's cheek, 'we understand what you tell us, in your own words, better than what any body writes in books.'

'That is the best of reasons to be sure,' replied Mr. Moreton ; 'and, after that, I cannot do otherwise than tell the story in my own way ; and when you are old enough, you shall read Mr. Levasseur for yourselves.'

Maria asked if Mr. Levasseur's book was harder to understand than *TELEMACHUS*, which she was reading at school ; and on hearing that it was easier, she wished she could read it instead of *TELEMACHUS*, all of which she could not understand, even when properly

translated. Mr. Moreton said he thought the beauties of that book were lost upon very young persons, and that, for American children, Mr. Levasseur's work would make a much more useful school-book, and he would recommend it to Maria's teacher.

'Now,' said Henry, 'pray go on, father; for I have got the map of New York, and traced Lafayette on the North River, as far as Newburgh; did he land any where else that night?'

'No, he was allowed to remain quietly on board the boat till sun-rise, when he came in sight of the high bank on which Poughkeepsie stands, and found it covered with soldiers, citizens, and even ladies, who had been there all night, waiting for his arrival. After such a proof of interest, on their part, he could do no less than land, receive their salutations, and hear their address. In this, he was reminded that it was at the house of George Clinton, in Poughkeepsie, that Washington, Hamilton, Livingston, and Jay, used to meet, to discuss the constitution which was afterwards adopted by the United States. Notwithstanding Lafayette spent as little time as possible at each place, he was obliged to land so often, during the rest of his voyage up the river, that he did not reach Albany till dark. He disappointed the inhabitants of Hudson as much as he did those of Newburgh,

for they had triumphal arches erected, and had made preparations for a ball; but their guest could do no more than land for a very short time. A large procession, headed by a band of music, accompanied Lafayette through the streets of Albany, which were brilliantly illuminated, not only by lights in the houses, but by high pyramids of blazing wood. At the entrance of the street leading to the Capitol, was a triumphal arch, on the top of which was perched a great live eagle, which flapped its wings as the General passed, as if to welcome him.'

'O that was beautiful!' exclaimed Henry; 'I wonder how he was taught to do it, just at the right time.' Maria reminded her brother that the eagle might have flapped his wings at that moment accidentally, which lessened his wonder and admiration very much; and he begged his father to go on.

'Well, Henry, if that eagle does not satisfy you, I can tell you of another which may please you better. After Lafayette had been ceremoniously received by the Mayor, in the Senate-chamber of the Capitol, had heard an address there, and replied to it, he was conducted to a large balcony of that building, that he might show himself to the people assembled before it. At the moment that he advanced between two columns, in front of the balcony, an eagle descended, and placed a crown of laurels on

his head. This was loudly applauded by all who saw it. What do you think of it, Henry? you stare as if you could not believe your own ears.'

When Henry recovered from his surprise, enough to speak, he observed to Maria, that this eagle at least must have been well taught, for it could not put a wreath on a man's head by accident; and he had now no doubt that the other had been trained to flap his wings, at the right time.

Maria however had perceived that her father did not call this a *live* eagle, as he had done the other, and a smile on her face led Henry to discover the truth. The moment it flashed upon him, he eagerly explained to Jane, who was still lost in wonder, that this last eagle must have been a stuffed one, moved by wires. Many questions followed as to how it was contrived; but their father told them that he knew nothing more about it; that, as such things were often done at the theatre, it could easily be accomplished, and it was not worth while to talk any more about it then.

'I hope,' said Mrs. Moreton, 'that this fatiguing day's work was ended by the eagle's performance, and that Lafayette was allowed to put on his night-cap next.'

'Far from it, I assure you, my dear; after that he attended a party; then he partook of a grand supper, and sat whilst toasts were

drank ; and concluded by going to a ball, from which he could not get away till after midnight.'

'What a surprising man !' said Mrs. Moreton ; his very body seems to be differently constituted from that of other people.'

'Why do you think so, mother ?' said Maria ; 'did not his son and his secretary go through the same fatigue that he did ?'

'So far as travelling, and being up late and early would fatigue them, they did,' replied Mrs. Moreton ; 'but Lafayette being the principal, in every scene, he had much more mental exertion to make, and had also much more to feel than any one else. Only think of the speeches he made on the spur of the occasion four or five times a day, the interesting meetings with old friends, and the recollections that crowded upon him. Yet he was always equal to the occasion, always full of conversation, always said the right thing, and never showed any weariness or absence of mind. It really required a great deal of character and well regulated feelings, to perform his part, in this great national entertainment, so uniformly well as he did.'

'Indeed it did,' said Mr. Moreton ; 'and nothing but real, unaffected goodness and simplicity could have carried him through it so well. The day after his arrival in Albany he went with a large company on the canal to

**Troy.** On arriving before that new and flourishing town, Lafayette observed, that when in 1778 he crossed the Hudson at that place, there were but two or three little cabins there, in one of which he procured, with some difficulty, a cup of milk and some corn bread. He was welcomed in Troy with the usual demonstrations of love and gratitude; he received and answered an address, passed through the streets in an open carriage, followed by a long procession, and partook of a breakfast already prepared for him. Whilst at table, he received a message from the ladies, of Troy, inviting him to visit the young ladies' boarding-school, where they were collected to receive him. The walks leading to this establishment were ornamented with green boughs and flowers, and terminated near the house in a triumphal arch, under which the Nation's Guest was received by five ladies, one of whom made him a short address. He was then conducted to the interior of the building, where no other gentleman was admitted; and some moments afterwards, his friends without caught the sound of female voices, chanting in chorus a flattering welcome to the General. He soon returned with traces of emotion on his countenance. As he walked down the flight of steps from the hall door, he was surrounded by the principal ladies of the establishment, and followed by two hundred young

girls, dressed in white, singing his praises and their gratitude. They accompanied him to the outer gate, where they took an affectionate leave of him, in the presence of thousands whom this touching spectacle kept in solemn silence.

‘After paying some private visits to old friends of his, who lived in Troy, the General returned by land to Albany, which place he left as he entered it, by the light of bonfires. The same steam-boat conveyed him and his suite back to New York, where, at his particular request, public entertainments were suspended. Here he was allowed to spend a few days as a private citizen, and to enjoy, in a quiet way, the society of many of his intimate friends.’

‘I am glad to hear that,’ said Mrs. Moreton; ‘for strong as Lafayette was, and well as he bore his great fatigues, he must have needed a little repose.’

‘And I need a little tea,’ said Mr. Moreton; ‘for I have been talking much longer than usual, and that too after a hard day’s work at the store.’

## TENTH EVENING.

‘I hope,’ said Henry, bowing playfully to his father, ‘that you and Lafayette are both rested since last evening, and that you are ready to begin your labors again.’ Maria asked how long Lafayette was allowed to remain quiet in New York, and her father replied,

‘Only from the seventeenth to the twenty-third of September ; then he left that city for the third time to go to Philadelphia, and to make an extensive tour through the country. Great crowds were assembled to see him depart, but the people felt that he was now leaving them for a long time, and sadness was on every countenance. Their silence formed a striking contrast to the noisy and joyous acclamations with which his presence had always been hailed till now. Seeing the streets lined with people, their kind and considerate guest dismissed his carriage, and walked to the boat in the midst of them, delayed at every step by some mark of affection. Some were anxious to speak to him once more before his departure, and it was with difficulty that his friends could clear a passage for him to advance ; but at last he reached the boat that was to convey him across the harbour, to the Jersey shore. The cannon roared a farewell, and he took leave



of the sad and silent multitude that witnessed his embarkation. A different scene awaited him at his landing in New Jersey, where the governor of the State and a military escort were ready to receive him. Shouts of welcome greeted him on landing, and he was soon on his road, receiving at every village fresh marks of the people's love. The inhabitants of Bergen presented him with a cane made of the wood of an apple-tree, under which he was known to have breakfasted with Washington, when he passed through the town during the revolutionary war. The tree was blown down by a great gale, in 1821, and these different circumstances were engraven on the golden head with which the cane was mounted.

At Newark he was welcomed by patriotic songs, sung by numerous choruses of boys and girls. These were particularly appropriate, as Lafayette's journey lay through a tract of country which was the scene of many of General Washington's skilful manœuvres during the war. He slept the first night at Elizabethtown, and the second at Trenton, where he arrived on Saturday evening, and the next day attended the Presbyterian church. After the morning service, he went quite privately, attended only by his son and secretary, the Governor and his aid, to visit Joseph Bonaparte at his beautiful country seat at Bordentown.'

'Why,' said Henry, 'did he go so private-

ly there? I should think he would have liked to show a man who had once been a king, that a good general was thought as much of in a republic, as kings were in his country.'

'O Henry!' said Maria; 'you would not wish Lafayette to do any thing ungenerous; and to go, with any parade, to see a dethroned monarch and an exile, would make him feel his situation painfully, and be very ungenerous, I think; don't you, papa?'

'Certainly, my dear; and when you consider that Lafayette was the constant opposer of the growing power of Joseph's brother, Napoleon, and that Joseph was now deprived of his regal state, whilst Lafayette was enjoying such honors as any monarch might envy, you will perceive that it required all the delicacy and all the modesty which the good General possessed, to render his visit acceptable to the dethroned king of Spain. He did however succeed perfectly, and the royal exile seemed very much gratified by it.

'Joseph Bonaparte made the party remain to dinner; and leaving his son-in-law to entertain the rest, he took Lafayette into his study, and conversed with him alone till the repast was ready. After dinner, the premises around the house were filled with the inhabitants of the village and the adjacent country, anxious to see the friend of liberty and of Washington. The master of the house immediately ordered the

doors to be thrown open to receive them, and in an instant the apartments were filled with the eager multitude. Though much of royal splendor met the eyes of these plain republicans, they cared not for the marble statues, or fine bronzes, or Italian pictures; they only desired to see the adopted son of America, the incorruptible friend of liberty; and when they had seen him, and spoken with him, and shown him to their children, they quietly retired. Lafayette apologized when they were gone for having drawn upon his host such a concourse of visitors, but Joseph replied with great kindness that he was very glad to have his neighbours mingle their welcomes with his; "besides," added he, "I have long been accustomed to see them here, in as great numbers; for every fourth of July, we celebrate together the anniversary of American Independence."

'Indeed!' said Maria, with great surprise; 'then, I think, that the dethroned king of Spain makes a very good republican.'

'I am told,' replied Mr. Moreton, 'that he does adapt himself remarkably well to the habits and opinions of the country in which he lives, and that he is much beloved by his neighbours; I therefore hope he is not spoiled for private life, though he has had the misfortune to wear a crown.'

'But we forget how time goes, as Lafayette

did in the company of Joseph Bonaparte. The Governor was obliged to remind him that it was time for them to set out on their return to Trenton. Their amiable host accompanied them several miles on their way, and led them, by a private road, through the domains which he has taken so much pains to improve and embellish.

‘ When they reached the public road, he stopped the carriages ; and, turning to Lafayette, he said with much feeling, “ Permit me to halt upon my frontiers, and here to restore you to the tender care of the Americans, who claim the happy privilege of doing you the honors of their country.” He then warmly embraced the General, shook the rest kindly by the hand, and drove off.’

‘ A very good visit, and very well over ! ’ said Mrs. Moreton. ‘ I think both deserve credit for making it so agreeable ; for if either had indulged any unamiable feelings, it would have been felt by the other, and spoiled all. What son-in-law was it that Joseph had with him ? ’

‘ It was his nephew, Charles Bonaparte, who is fond of natural history, and has continued Wilson’s work on American Ornithology. It was in his book that the children saw that perfect representation of the wild turkey.’ Maria was about to expatiate on its beauties, but Henry begged his father to go on with his story ; for he said the tea-cups were rattling in

the china-closet, and he was afraid tea would be ready before they had heard about Lafayette's entrance into Philadelphia. He longed to hear what the people there had thought of, to make their reception of the Nation's Guest different from that of New York and Boston.

'One peculiarity was, that stages were erected on each side of the streets, as high as the eaves of the houses, wherever there was an open space in the outskirts of the town for the accommodation of spectators ; and another was, that all the people of different trades were formed into companies, and drawn up in lines, whilst at the head of each was a workshop, in which the trade was carried on, and to each workshop was a banner, containing the portraits of Washington and Lafayette with these words, "To their wisdom and courage, we owe the free exercise of our industry."'

'Well, that was something new !' exclaimed Henry ; 'how large were the workshops and how were they made ?'

'They were wooden platforms on wheels, large enough to enable two or three men to carry on their trade ; and after Lafayette passed, they joined the procession and were drawn along by horses, whilst the business of the workshop still went on. Of these trades the most remarkable was that of a printer, who kept striking off copies of verses made for the occasion, which were distributed as fast as printed.

‘ Another peculiarity of this procession was four immense cars, arranged somewhat like tents, and each carrying forty revolutionary soldiers. Lafayette was in an open carriage drawn by six horses ; and by his side was the venerable Judge Peters, who filled a most important office during the revolutionary war. After passing under thirteen triumphal arches, the procession halted before the State-house, where the Guest of the Nation was received by the Mayor, who made him a very appropriate address, in the very hall where the Declaration of Independence was signed, and where the Congress met, when Lafayette applied to it for permission to serve in the American Army ; his reply showed how deeply he was moved by these recollections. After these ceremonies, the General was given up for several hours to the public. All sorts of persons were permitted to approach him, to speak to him, and to shake hands with him. Then followed a great dinner, at which all the civil authorities and citizens of distinction were present. In the evening, the city was generally and splendidly illuminated. Each triumphal arch was a blaze of light, and all the public buildings were tastefully adorned with colored lamps. Even the vessels at the wharves were illuminated, and produced a beautiful effect ; for not only their decks and sides were marked by rows of lamps, but the masts and all the

largest rigging, such as the shrouds and stays, were traced by lines of light.'

'I never before heard of a ship's being illuminated,' said Maria; 'but I should think that the effect would be very beautiful.'

'This extensive illumination,' continued Mr. Moreton, 'brought into the streets nearly the whole population of the city, which was then 120,000 souls, and this number was increased by the presence of 40,000 strangers, who were assembled there from various parts of the Union; yet the Mayor told Lafayette, the next morning, that there had not been one complaint lodged at his office, no disturbance had occurred, no accident had happened; "See," said he, "how freemen behave!" One excellent regulation was made, which no doubt contributed to preserve good order; the lamps were all extinguished at eleven o'clock, and I have heard, from those who were present, that this vast illumination was so suddenly changed to darkness, that the effect was very striking.'

'Well, Henry,' said his mother, 'do n't you think the Philadelphians succeeded very well in varying their reception of Lafayette from that of other cities?'

'Yes, they contrived to have something different, to be sure; but it was not so peculiar to their city, as the steam-boats were to New York, or the schools to Boston.'

'That is very true,' replied Mrs. Moreton;

‘but the regularity with which Philadelphia is built is peculiar to it, and was particularly favorable to a general illumination; if our narrow, crooked streets were lighted up, it would serve to show off their deformity.’

Henry did not like to hear his mother speak thus of the streets of Boston, and so he began to name all those which are not narrow or crooked; but his father interrupted him by saying,

‘You may name over every straight street in Boston, Henry, but you cannot make out that it is a regularly built town; although as a matter of taste, we may prefer a city built on hills, to one situated on a plain, we must allow that there are inconveniences in it, and we must be sensible that Philadelphia is far more regularly and handsomely built. Each of our great cities has its peculiar beauties and advantages, and the inhabitants of one gain nothing by being unwilling duely to appreciate and admire the beauties of the rest. But if you wish to hear any more of Lafayette this evening I must go on; for I have an appointment directly after tea, and it is nearly time for that now.’

‘O, do finish with Philadelphia then!’ said Henry.

‘Lafayette spent a week there, during which time he visited their various public institutions, received and answered numerous addresses in the Hall of Independence, visited many old friends, attended dinners and balls, and passed his time very pleasantly.’



‘Now, Henry, turn to your map of Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and Delaware, and trace Lafayette’s route to Baltimore. He went down the river Delaware to Chester, where he spent the night, after partaking of an excellent supper, in the very hall where his wound was first dressed, after the battle of Brandywine. The next morning, he continued his journey by land ; and when he reached the boundary line between Pennsylvania and Delaware, the committee of gentlemen, who had attended him from Philadelphia, gave him into the care of the Delaware committee, and returned home. He dined at Wilmington, stopped at New Castle to witness a marriage, and arrived late at Frenchtown, where a steamboat waited to convey him to Baltimore, and where he was met by a large deputation of gentlemen from Maryland. He crossed the Chesapeake during the night and in very bad weather, but the clouds dispersed before the morning sun ; and when he entered the beautiful river Patapsco, on which Baltimore stands, he had a fine view of that pretty city and the long peninsula which extends from it to Fort McHenry, where the Governor of the State had established his head-quarters to receive him. Four large steam-boats, gaily dressed with flags, and filled with citizens, came to meet him ; and after giving him three cheers from each, as they passed, they formed a line

behind the vessel that conveyed Lafayette. As it was necessary to land in small boats, that which bore the Nation's Guest, was rowed by twelve ship-masters of Baltimore. Salutes of artillery and military honors announced his entrance into the fort, and he was conducted through opening ranks of infantry, to the *tent of Washington*, where he was received by the Governor, with an appropriate address. Bringing that tent to grace the festivities of the day, was the idea of Mr. Custis, the nephew of General Washington, with whom George Lafayette had passed two years under the hospitable roof of Mount Vernon, during the imprisonment of his father at Olmütz ; and the meeting between these friends was one of the interesting events of this day. Lafayette passed from the fort to the city, at the head of a great procession, and through multitudes of people who had come out to meet him. At the entrance of Baltimore was a very handsome triumphal arch, supported on four beautiful Ionic columns. Under this arch, twenty-four young ladies, dressed in white and crowned with myrtle, each holding a lance on which was written the name of a State, and thus representing the twenty-four States of the Union, received the Nation's Guest, encircled him with garlands, and crowned him with laurel. At the same moment, the roar of the cannon mingled with the acclamations of the multitude, and thou-

sands of voices bid him welcome. After this, the usual ceremonies were repeated of an address from the Mayor in the City Hall, the introduction of various city authorities, a review of troops, and a great dinner. Brilliant entertainments were made for him during the five days he remained in Baltimore, but the ball given at the theatre, by the city, was the most uncommon. The pit was floored over as a dancing-hall, and the company occupied the boxes; the whole was dimly lighted till Lafayette entered; he was introduced over the stage, and his approach was announced by an invisible band, who played *Lafayette's march*. The moment he appeared, a flood of light was poured upon the scene by the sudden lighting of numerous gas pipes, and showed to advantage the beauty of the Baltimore ladies, brightened by the fine expression of their countenances on this occasion. A farewell dinner was given to Lafayette, under an immense tent, so placed as to command a view of nearly all the points rendered remarkable by the valor of the citizens of Baltimore, when they defended their city against the attacks of the British during the last war. It was with difficulty, that he tore himself away from the company of veteran patriots who were assembled around him, but the setting sun warned him to depart; and taking an affectionate leave of his numerous friends, he

set out on his journey to Washington with a large escort, civil and military. Whilst he is travelling in the dark, we will take our tea, that I may be in time for my appointment.'

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### ELEVENTH EVENING.

'Now papa,' said Jane, 'I hope you have a great deal to tell us; for mamma says, you read in that French book till very late last night.'

'I read a good deal without finding much that would interest you,' replied Mr. Moreton. 'There was nothing peculiar in the reception of Lafayette at Washington. After the usual ceremonies, he went to the President's house, accompanied by his travelling companions and the city authorities; he was shown into the drawing room, and cordially received by Mr. Monroe, who was then at the head of our nation, and presented to the officers of state, and other distinguished persons who were present. The President told him that he had earnestly desired to have him in his house during his stay; but the people of Washington said, that as the Nation's Guest, none but the nation had a right to lodge him. Accordingly he was provided with an establishment at the public

expense, which he occupied during the time he spent in the capital of the United States.

‘ His visit to Mount Vernon will interest you more than any thing which happened during his first stay in Washington, and I will give you Mr. Levasseur’s account of it. That favorite residence of the father of his country is beautifully situated, on the river Potomac, and Lafayette and his friends went there from Alexandria in a steam-boat. After a voyage of two hours, the guns of Fort Washington announced their approach to the sacred spot, and the military band, on board the boat, played such plaintive airs, as accorded with the feelings of the company on coming in sight of it. Landed on the soil so often pressed by the foot of Washington, they all proceeded in silence to the deserted mansion. Lafayette and his son entered it unattended, and there indulged the tender emotions occasioned by revisiting those scenes which each had, at different times, enjoyed in the presence of their lost friend. After a few minutes so spent, three nephews of General Washington conducted them to the modest tomb of the sage, whilst the numerous company remained at the house, and the cannon of the fort announced to the country around that Lafayette was paying this tribute of respect to the remains of Washington. He entered the little vault alone. It is of the simplest construction,

sodded over, surrounded by trees, and having a wooden door without any inscription. In a few minutes Lafayette reappeared with his face bathed in tears, and led his son and secretary into the tomb, where they mingled their tears and their prayers, over the dust of the immortal Washington.

‘A ring, containing the hair of his illustrious friend, was presented to Lafayette, by one of the three nephews who attended him; and after this they rejoined the party at the house. George Lafayette remarked with much pleasure that every thing there remained just as it was when he saw it, twenty-eight years before. The principal key of the Bastille, presented by General Lafayette, hung in the very same spot where Washington himself had placed it; and the note sent with the key, is still carefully preserved.

‘The whole company returned in silence to the steam-boat; and not till the high banks of the winding river hid Mount Vernon from their sight, was the mournful stillness interrupted by conversation. All then drew around Lafayette, and listened for hours to his anecdotes of Washington.’

‘Why, where were they going?’ asked Henry, ‘that they should be so long on board of that steam-boat.’

‘They were going to Yorktown, to be present at a military celebration of the anni-

versary of that siege, which decided the fate of our country ; they therefore continued their voyage down the Potomac, into Chesapeake bay, as far as the mouth of York river, which they reached at noon the next day. Joined by other steam-boats, filled with passengers, they ascended the river to Yorktown, where crowds of persons were assembled to greet Lafayette. He was received with military honors by the Governor of Virginia, heard two addresses and replied to them, and then was conducted to the head-quarters prepared for him. These were established in the very house which Lord Cornwallis occupied during the siege of Yorktown, forty-three years before.

‘Yorktown, being situated in an unhealthy spot, has never increased since the revolutionary war ; and the houses, which were blackened by fire, or partially thrown down during the siege, have never been repaired. It was therefore very easy to give to it the appearance of a camp, hastily formed near a village, taken and occupied after an obstinate battle ; this was accordingly done, and, to keep up the illusion, no one but Lafayette was accommodated with a bed, and the rest of the company lay on straw, or mattresses, in unfurnished apartments. Sixty officers formed a volunteer company, to guard the head-quarters, around which they spent the night in the open air.

‘At daybreak the next morning, the 19th of October, the cannon began to thunder forth their summons to the soldiers, to get under arms. Washington’s tent had been pitched for the use of Lafayette, who there received the different officers from the surrounding regiments. Among those presented to the General on this occasion, were two old revolutionary soldiers, who were so much affected, that they fainted away in shaking hands with him, and produced a most touching scene. An interest of a different kind was excited by the appearance of Colonel Lewis, in the dress of a Virginian mountaineer. He asked permission to address Lafayette on behalf of his countrymen, which he did to the great admiration of his auditors. When he had finished, the General thanked him very affectionately, and begged him to express his gratitude to the mountaineers of Virginia, whose excellent and numerous services during the war he well remembered.

‘Whilst these scenes were passing in the tent, the troops were approaching to conduct Lafayette to the spot where the redoubt stood, which he carried at the head of American troops, in the siege of Yorktown.’

‘How could he *carry* a redoubt, papa?’ asked Jane; ‘I thought a redoubt was a sort of fortification.’

Henry was so diverted at Jane’s not under-



standing this use of the word *carry*, that he could not help laughing aloud ; but his father told him that there was nothing to laugh at, and that it was no wonder at all that Jane should not understand a military term like that. He then explained to his little daughter that a place is said to be *carried*, when it is taken possession of by force, and asked her if she remembered the account he had given them of the two large redoubts which Lafayette and Viomenil took, at the siege of Yorktown. Jane said she knew all about it now ; it was only that word which puzzled her. ‘ Well, then,’ continued Mr. Moreton, ‘ in the place where Lafayette’s redoubt then stood, there was now erected a triumphal arch, to which the troops conducted him, through a double row of ladies. He was received under the triumphal arch by General Taylor, who, after the different regiments had taken the places assigned them, and the surrounding multitude had become silent, addressed Lafayette in an eloquent speech. He described the services which the adopted son of America had rendered this country, and the cause there was for national gratitude ; he alluded to his exertions in favor of freedom in the land of his birth, spoke of the firmness he had displayed in adhering to his principles under the most trying circumstances, and said every act of his life had had for its object the improve-

ment of the moral and political condition of the world. He ended by begging him to accept a simple but expressive token of the people's gratitude and admiration. "Permit," said he, "one of their leaders to place on your head the only crown which you would not disdain to wear, that which is emblematical of civil virtue and warlike courage." Here the orator advanced towards General Lafayette and placing the wreath on his head, he exclaimed aloud for all the multitude to hear, "In the presence of these citizens, defenders of Virginia, and on this redoubt, the scene of his youthful valor, I offer to Lafayette this wreath, emblem of a double triumph, that of a hero in war, and a benefactor of his race in peace."

'The enthusiasm with which these last words were received by the people, touched the feelings of Lafayette so much that he was almost overcome, and would hardly have been able to reply, had not that true modesty, for which he has always been remarkable, made him think of something which helped him to regain his composure. He took the wreath from his head, and turning to one of the officers who gallantly aided in the attack upon the redoubt, he gave it to him, saying, "Take it; this wreath belongs to you also; preserve it as a deposit for which we must account to our comrades." Then he addressed General Taylor, and having expressed his grateful sense of

the friendship shown him by his ancient companions in arms, he spoke of the valor of the officers who directed the attack and of the brave light infantry who executed it, and ended by saying, that it was only in their name, and in common with them, that he accepted the wreath. After this ceremony, the troops defiled before the hero of the day, and the rest of the time was spent in festivities suited to the occasion. One accidental circumstance added much to the gayety of the scene. I told you that Lafayette was lodged in the same house which Lord Cornwallis had occupied forty-three years before. Well, some of the attendants happened to find, in a dark corner of the cellar, a large, heavy chest, which, on examination, was found to be part of Lord Cornwallis's stores, during the siege, and to be filled with candles, blackened by age. As soon as this was known in the camp, the chest was carried thither, the candles were lighted and arranged in a large circle in the centre of the tents, and there the company danced during the evening. "A ball in Yorktown, in 1824, by the light of Cornwallis's candles, was such an amusing circumstance to our old revolutionary soldiers, that notwithstanding their great age, and the fatigues of the day, most of them were unwilling to retire until the candles were burnt out." After translating the last sentence from the work of Levasseur, Mr. Moreton

turned over the leaves of the book for some time, and then told the children, that when they were older they would read the whole of that account with great pleasure ; but that now, he should only tell them very briefly what places Lafayette visited in his extensive tour, and relate a few of the most remarkable incidents. Henry opened his atlas at the map of Virginia, and his father went on.

‘ From Yorktown, Lafayette and his travelling companions went to Williamsburg, formerly the capital of Virginia, but now a small and unimportant place. The inhabitants however did not forget, that before their town Lafayette had once established an excellent post, which the veteran chief, Cornwallis, had attacked in vain ; and he passed the day there with a considerable number of his old friends. Several of these accompanied him the next day when he embarked at Jamestown for Norfolk, and their voyage down James river was rendered very interesting by the recollections of their glorious Virginia campaign, which every point of the shore brought to mind. Passing through Hampton Roads and up Elizabeth river, they arrived at Norfolk, which is situated on such low, marshy ground that it cannot be seen till you approach very near it. Lafayette was received here, as every where else, with all the demonstrations of respect and affection which the people could

devise. The next day, he visited the Navy Yard at Portsmouth, and attended a ball in the evening at Norfolk. When he left the brilliant assembly, he went directly on board the steamboat that was to convey him up James river to Richmond, the capital of Virginia, where he was the more eagerly expected, as that city contained a great many persons who had been eye-witnesses of his services in the cause of freedom. All business was suspended, and notwithstanding the weather was very unfavorable, his reception at Richmond showed that the Virginians appreciated the character of the Nation's Guest as highly as the inhabitants of other parts of the Union. A pressing invitation from the citizens of Petersburg, a small but pretty town, built on the south-east bank of the Appomatox river, determined Lafayette to go there; it was distant twenty-five miles, and was the scene of some of his manœuvres during the Virginia campaign, the details of which you will one day read in Marshall's Life of Washington. After twenty-four hours spent in Petersburg, Lafayette returned to Richmond, and two days afterwards he set out for Monticello, the residence of Mr. Jefferson, escorted by the volunteer cavalry of Richmond, and a committee of arrangements. As you do not know enough of the public or private character of this distinguished man, who was the writer of the

*Declaration of Independence*, and third President of the United States, to take any particular interest in hearing of Lafayette's visit to his hospitable and elegant mansion, I will pass over that, and also his visit to Mr. Madison, another Ex-President, only telling you that he greatly enjoyed the society of both those venerable statesmen. The entertainment given at Charlottesville, where Lafayette went to see the University of Virginia, founded by Mr. Jefferson, was rendered peculiarly interesting to all the company by the Nation's Guest being seated at the banquet between those two Ex-Presidents of the United States. On this occasion, Mr. Madison gave a toast which was received with the greatest applause. It was this: "*To Liberty, with Virtue for her guest, and gratitude for the feast.*"

'After passing a few days at Montpelier, the seat of Mr. Madison, Lafayette left it on the 19th of November to go to Fredericksburg, by the way of Orange Court-house, where he was greeted with the usual ceremonies by the Governor of the State, and partook of an entertainment.

'Pursuing his journey after dinner, he came unexpectedly to a triumphal arch, and a collection of people who seemed particularly occupied with a small path that led into a wood. On reaching the spot, Lafayette was very much interested in learning that this

was the old road, which he had opened when he made the forced march which saved the magazines at Albemarle from falling into the hands of the British. This new proof of the grateful remembrance, in which all his services were held by the American people, deeply affected Lafayette. He left his carriage and entered the little path, which was strewn with flowers by the young ladies who surrounded him. He conversed some time with the citizens who had assembled to greet him, and told the young people how strongly these places reminded him of the obligations he owed to their parents. "It was here," said he, "at the moment when I effected, by this path, a movement, which, if not successful, would have been fatal, that the people left their harvests to join my little army; and during that whole campaign, the separation from their families, the great fatigue they endured, the loss of their crops, the difficulty of procuring provisions, did not prevent them from continuing with the army far beyond the time we had any right to ask of them." But Lafayette did not relate, because modesty prevented him, the admirable means by which, at that very time, he raised the courage of the most dejected, and kept those with him who were most inclined to withdraw.

‘He reached Fredericksburg soon after sunset, and was received by the little boys formed into a battalion, under the name of the Lafay-

ette Cadets. The town was illuminated; an address from the Mayor was followed by a great supper; and a ball terminated the festivities of the evening. From this place he returned by water to Washington.'

'Why did he go again to Washington?' asked Maria.

'To receive the honors intended for him by Congress, when the session should begin; and whilst waiting for that, he attended the meeting of an Agricultural Society at Baltimore, and paid visits to his friends in the neighbourhood. He also received deputations from the Southern and Western States, which brought him the most pressing invitations to visit those parts of the Union. At length he determined to accept them all, and, after spending the severest part of the winter in Washington, to begin an extensive tour to the South and West.

'The concourse of people generally assembled at Washington every winter, during the sitting of Congress, was greatly increased by the presence of the Nation's Guest at the seat of government, and the brilliant entertainments of that season will long be remembered by those who shared in them.

'An early day, after the meeting of Congress, was fixed upon for the public reception of Lafayette in the Senate-chamber. As soon as the time was known, the troops determined to



escort Lafayette to the Capitol, and were making their preparations; but he requested them not to turn out on this occasion, as he considered military parade to be out of place, in these civil honors. Accordingly he went to the Senate-chamber, attended only by the committee appointed to conduct him there, and was ushered into the midst of the assembly by Mr. Barbour, president of that committee, who on reaching the centre of the hall said, in a loud voice, "We introduce General Lafayette to the Senate of the United States." The Senators received him standing, uncovered, and in profound silence. The committee then invited him to a seat on the right hand of the president of the Senate, and the house was immediately adjourned, that each member might pay his respects individually. The next morning the General was again conducted to the Capitol, by a deputation of twenty-four members of the House of Representatives. That magnificent hall, in which the representatives sit, was filled to overflowing; the Senate were invited to attend and were accordingly present; a great number of ladies, elegantly dressed, added to the brilliancy of the scene; and when all the members were assembled and had taken their seats, a signal was given, the great doors of the hall were thrown open, and Lafayette entered, with a gentleman on each side of him, and followed

by the deputation. When he had reached the centre of the hall, the Speaker of the House, Mr. Clay, addressed him, on behalf of the Representatives, in an eloquent strain of congratulation and welcome. After mentioning the services he had rendered this country, and his consistent conduct, as a true friend of liberty and good order, in Europe, he ended thus :

“The vain wish has been sometimes indulged, that Providence would allow the patriot, after death, to return to his country, and to contemplate the intermediate changes which had taken place ;—to view the forests felled, the cities built, the mountains levelled, the canals cut, the highways constructed, the progress of the arts, the advancement of learning, and the increase of population. General, your present visit to the United States is a realization of the consoling object of that wish. You are in the midst of posterity. Every where, you must have been struck with the great changes, physical and moral, which have occurred since you left us. Even this very city, bearing a venerated name, alike endeared to you and to us, has since emerged from the forest which then covered its site. In one respect, you behold us unaltered, and this is in the sentiment of continued devotion to liberty, and of ardent affection and profound gratitude to your departed friend, the Father of his Country, and to you, and to your illus-

trious associates in the field and in the cabinet, for the multiplied blessings which surround us, and for the very privilege of addressing you, which I now exercise. This sentiment, now fondly cherished by more than ten millions of people, will be transmitted, with unabated vigor, down the tide of time, through the countless millions who are destined to inhabit this continent, to the latest posterity."

'The deep feeling of the orator was communicated to the whole assembly, and the answer of Lafayette was eagerly expected. Most persons supposed that he would be prepared with a written speech, on this important occasion; they were therefore agreeably surprised to see him advance a few steps towards the Speaker, look round upon the assembly with a countenance full of grateful emotion, and after a few moments recollection, deliver an extemporaneous reply.

'This national compliment, paid by Congress to Lafayette, was such a novel distinction and so high an honor, that one would suppose nothing more remained to be done; but the President, in his Message, had recommended to Congress, in consideration of the sacrifices Lafayette had made, the services he had rendered, and the losses he had sustained, to make him such a donation as would be worthy of a great nation to bestow; and the voice of the public proclaimed how agreeable it would be

to the wishes of the people. A bill was accordingly passed, by which he was to receive the sum of 200,000 dollars, and a tract of land of 24,000 acres, to be chosen from the most fertile part of the government lands; and though it did not pass without some opposition and discussion, it was carried by an overwhelming majority at last.'

'Who could have opposed it?' said Maria; 'I wonder at them.'

'They don't deserve the name of Americans,' said Henry.

'Not so fast, my son, with your censures,' replied Mr. Moreton; 'you must not judge people's actions without hearing their reasons, and knowing their motives. Strange as it may seem to you, those who opposed the bill were ardent admirers of Lafayette, and thought his services could not be too highly recompensed; but they considered that Congress had no legal right to dispose of the public money in this way, and that it might set an example to future times that would be dangerous.'

'Well,' said Mrs. Moreton, 'I cannot help thinking those legislators were over-scrupulous, and I rejoice that they did not prevail. Such extraordinary services might well be recompensed in an extraordinary manner; and as servants of the public they might be satisfied that they were fulfilling the wishes of the public. Such a discussion must have spoiled Lafayette's pleasure in receiving the gift.'

‘ Mr. Levasseur says he was absent from Washington whilst the bill was before the two houses, and knew nothing of it till he was officially made acquainted with this act of Congress ; that he was at first greatly embarrassed by the offer of so rich a gift, and thought of refusing it, but was afterwards convinced that he could not do so without offending the American Nation, and therefore accepted it with suitable expressions of gratitude.

‘ This act of Congress met with universal approbation throughout the Union, and some States even wished to make additional grants, but Lafayette steadily repressed this excess of generosity. Now that our favorite hero is well through this affair, we will leave him for the present.’

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## TWELFTH EVENING.

‘ In order to perform all the engagements which he had entered into, Lafayette was obliged to undertake a journey of more than three thousand miles ; and as he had promised to be in Boston on the 17th of June, to attend the celebration of the Anniversary of the battle of Bunker Hill, it was necessary that he should

set out in February. Although every facility which the country afforded was at his service, yet he had before him a fatiguing and difficult undertaking, and his friends could not think, without anxiety, of the bad roads and rough tracts of country, the dangerous navigation and poor accommodations, to which he must be exposed in this long journey. An easy travelling carriage was presented to him by a lady of the Washington family; and with good saddle horses in his train, and as little baggage as possible, he and his travelling companions began their tour. They went first by water to Norfolk, and thence by Suffolk, Murfreesborough, and Halifax, to Raleigh, the seat of government of North Carolina. At every place I name, you must understand that Lafayette was received with public rejoicings, and welcomed with every mark of gratitude that time and circumstances would allow; but I shall only stop to notice a few particulars here and there.

‘On his first day’s journey from Norfolk, his carriage stopped at the door of a small, solitary inn whilst the horses were watered. The General did not think of alighting until he was earnestly pressed to do so by the landlord, who entreated him to enter his house, if only for five minutes. He did so, and was shown into a clean little parlour, on the white-washed wall of which was written with charcoal, *Wel-*

come, *Lafayette*, and round these words were placed boughs of the fir tree from the neighbouring woods. A bright fire of pine wood was crackling on the hearth, and by it stood a small table, covered with a clean white cloth, on which were placed decanters of spirits and glasses, with a plate of bread. Having pressed his guests to partake of these simple refreshments, the landlord disappeared, and presently returned accompanied by his wife and a fine little boy three years old. After introducing them, the father took his child in his arms, and placing his little hand in that of *Lafayette*, made him repeat with much emphasis these words, "General *Lafayette*, I thank you for the liberty which you have won for my father, for my mother, for myself, for my country!" While the boy was speaking, the parents' eyes were fixed upon their guest with an expression of the profoundest admiration and respect; and when he had done, their hearts were so full of emotion they could not restrain their tears. This touching scene was so overcoming to *Lafayette* that he could only kiss the child in silence; and Mr. Levasseur says, that, judging by his own feelings, this must have been one of the most pleasing moments in the life of the General.'

'I dare say it was,' said Maria; 'and those good people in their lonely house will always remember his visit with pleasure. I wonder

if the little boy will recollect it when he grows up.'

'He will fancy he does,' replied her father; 'for it will be so often mentioned before him that he will not be able to distinguish between the relation of it and the reality; in this way children often think they remember events when they do not. But we must make haste, for we have a very long journey before us. — From Raleigh our travellers went to Fayetteville, a pretty town on Cape Fear river, founded forty years ago, and so named to perpetuate the memory of services rendered by him who was now welcomed there with the greatest enthusiasm. When he was received into the lodgings prepared for him, by the committee of arrangements, one of them said to him, "You are here in your own town, in your own house, surrounded by your children; dispose of all as you please, every thing is yours." Twenty-four hours after leaving Fayetteville, in the midst of a pine forest, the travellers came to the boundary line between North and South Carolina, and met a deputation sent from the latter State to wait upon Lafayette. Here they parted from the friends who had attended them through North Carolina, and proceeded with their new escort to Cheraw. The next day's journey was very tedious and difficult, as the roads were rendered almost impassable by the overflowing of rivers. Night overtook the party



on their way, some gentlemen of the escort lost the road and wandered into the forest, and one carriage broke down, but not that which contained Lafayette. He arrived safely at a house just erected, in the midst of a new settlement, and would have slept soundly but for the blowing of horns, which was continued through the night, for the benefit of those who were lost in the woods.

‘The party were all assembled in safety the next morning, and continued their march through the sands and pine woods to Camden, a place memorable in American history for the defeat of General Gates’s army, and for the death of Baron de Kalb, who after performing deeds of great valor, as second in command, fell pierced with eleven wounds, at the close of the battle. Camden is a very small town, but a great concourse of people were assembled there from eighty miles round, to see Lafayette, and to attend the ceremony of his laying the corner-stone of a monument which was to be erected to the memory of Baron de Kalb.’

Henry asked if that was the same person who landed with Lafayette, when he first arrived in this country and went to the house where the dogs barked and the people would not take them in. His father told him it was. ‘After military honors had been performed over the spot where the remains of the Baron

had been deposited, the corner-stone of the monument was lowered to its place, with the hand of Lafayette resting upon it, whilst the people looked on in solemn silence, to see this French veteran, paying the last honors to a German warrior, in that land which both had assisted in its glorious struggle for freedom. The ceremony was concluded by a discourse from Lafayette, in which he paid to his ancient companion in arms that tribute of praise which he so well deserved as a good citizen, a skilful commander, and a courageous defender of the cause of liberty.'

'It was very remarkable,' said Mrs. Moreton, 'that the friend, with whom the Baron first embarked in our affairs, should come, after so many years, and from so distant a land, to render him these funeral honors in the obscure place where he fell.'

'It is so,' continued Mr. Moreton; 'and it is one of the many striking instances in the life of Lafayette, where he seems the connecting link between the present and the past. His visit to our country brought the events of our revolution nearer to us all; the sight of him made us realize more fully that the glorious deeds and noble sacrifices, made by our fathers, were but lately passed; and I earnestly hope that we shall, in consequence, prize more highly and and preserve more carefully, the institutions which they contended for, amid so many

difficulties, and at last triumphantly established. But to go on with my story ; Lafayette went next to Columbia, the seat of government in South Carolina, and after receiving all honor and attention there, he proceeded to Charleston, the chief city of the same State. Great preparations had been made to receive the venerable patriot whose first services in the cause of America had been rendered in that city, when he landed there, a youth of nineteen. Militia companies from the most distant parts of the State were assembled on this occasion, to do honor to the General ; but the most remarkable corps which left the city to meet him was a company of Frenchmen dressed in the uniform of the National Guards of Paris, at the time of the French revolution. When these joined the procession, the place of honor was very properly given to them, next the carriage of their countryman. The Nation's Guest entered Charleston at the head of one of the largest processions that had any where graced his reception, and amidst the ringing of bells, firing of cannon, and shouts of *Welcome, Lafayette*, which made the air resound without intermission, for nearly two hours. But amidst all these proofs of public esteem, that which most touched the feelings of the General was the pleasure afforded him by the citizens of Charleston, in allowing him to share these honors with his brave and excellent friend, Colonel Huger.'

‘O that was good!’ exclaimed Henry; ‘I am glad they thought of that; did he ride in the carriage with Lafayette? and was that their first meeting since they parted on the plain near Olmütz?’

‘He rode in the triumphal car which conveyed Lafayette, but they had met before; for Colonel Huger went to New York to greet the General on his arrival. Here however was his home; and his fellow citizens showed their esteem for his character, and their grateful remembrance of his noble and perilous enterprise at Olmütz, by insisting on his sharing in all the public honors conferred on the Nation’s Guest. Every where he had a seat beside him, every where the name of Huger was inscribed with that of Lafayette. This could not have been more gratifying to the American planter, than it was to the Nation’s Guest. Three days were spent in a constant succession of brilliant entertainments and flattering attentions from the citizens of Charleston; but the most delicate and gratifying compliment of all was the gift they made to Lafayette of a beautiful miniature and perfect likeness of his friend, Colonel Huger, set in a frame of solid gold, richly ornamented.

‘From Charleston Lafayette proceeded to Savannah by water, in order to avoid the bad roads of South Carolina; and a fine steam-boat was prepared for his accommodation

‘If you look on your map, you will see that the coast between those two cities is bordered with islands; on one of these, called Edisto, the people expected Lafayette to pay a visit, and had made preparations to entertain him for several days. When they found he could only stay three hours, they resolved to crowd all their festivities into that short period; and he was therefore obliged, in that time, to receive and answer an address, to partake of a public dinner, to go to a ball, and attend the baptism of an infant, to which the name of Lafayette was given. After doing all this, he crossed the island very rapidly in a carriage, to join the steam-boat which awaited him on the other side, and was delighted as he went with the great variety of vegetation. Odoriferous shrubs, of the most elegant forms, were interspersed among large forest trees; and dwellings, shaded by palmetto trees, gave a new beauty to the landscape.

‘Coasting along, between the islands and the continent, the steam-boat often went through passages so narrow that it seemed more like gliding through woods and meadows, than sailing on the water. After one night spent in this sort of navigation, Lafayette and his numerous companions approached the mouth of Savannah river, the boundary line between South Carolina and Georgia. Alligators were seen floating near the shore, or swimming round the

vessel ; and the captain shot one and sent a boat for it, that Lafayette might examine it. On coming in sight of the city, the whole population appeared to be assembled on the bank of the river, to meet their guest. Taking leave of his kind friends of South Carolina, he was soon seated in a triumphal car, amidst salutes of artillery and the affectionate greetings of an eager multitude, and passing through the streets of Savannah, which are lined on each side by rows of beautiful trees, called the *pride of India*, and were on this occasion strewed with flowers and adorned with triumphal arches. Georgia was not behind other States in her reception of the Nation's Guest ; at Savannah and Augusta great preparations had been made, and the number of entertainments he attended was almost too much for his health.

‘The most fatiguing part of his journey was yet to come ; for the roads from Augusta to Milledgeville, the seat of government in Georgia, were extremely bad. Most of the company travelled on horseback ; but the General kept to his carriage, and, though in danger of upsetting or breaking down many times, he arrived without any accident. The violent jolts he met with, brought on an indisposition which alarmed his friends, but which he got over after the first day's journey. On leaving Milledgeville, he had to cross a large tract of land inhabited by the Creek Indians, and with-

out either roads or towns ; often travelling for a whole day through tall forests that were the growth of ages, using as a path the dry bed of some stream or the *blazed* road of the hunters, and sleeping at the house of some white settler, who was living amongst the Indians for the sake of trading with them and obtaining furs. On arriving at the first stopping-place within the territory of the Creek nation, Lafayette found that a hundred Indians had been assembled there, the evening before, to meet him ; but, as he had not appeared at the time expected, they had gone elsewhere to prepare for his reception. To be received with public rejoicings by a tribe of Indians, was something new in the march of Lafayette through the country, and I think you will like to hear Mr. Levasseur's account of it. The travellers were embarked on the Chatahoochee river when they saw the first body of Indians, assembled to meet the General. On a piece of rising ground, at a little distance from the river, was a great number of men, women, and children, who all approached the place of landing ; and when George Lafayette stepped on shore, they surrounded him, leaping and dancing, and touching his hands and clothes, with an air of surprise and pleasure. All at once, as if they wished to be more grave and dignified in their reception of Lafayette, the women retired behind the men, who ranged themselves in a line,

and, at a signal from their chief, they set up a sharp, prolonged cry, as a salute to the General. They then approached the boat ; and when Lafayette would have stepped on shore, they insisted upon his seating himself in the little light carriage he had with him, and several of the strongest of them carried him in it some distance, saying they would not let their father step on the wet ground. When they had set down the carriage, the chief addressed Lafayette in English, and told him that he and his brethren were happy to be visited by one, who in his affection for the people of America had never made any distinction of blood or color, one who was the beloved friend of all the races of men on this continent. When the chief had finished speaking, the other Indians advanced, and each placed his right arm on that of the General, a token of friendship among them, like the shaking of hands with us. They would not permit him to alight, but dragged the carriage themselves up the hill, on the top of which was one of their largest villages. On reaching the summit, the travelers saw the glitter of helmets and swords, and found that a military escort of white men had arrived from Alabama to meet Lafayette. The Indians looked with some displeasure on the Americans as they arranged themselves round the General, and then ran on before him to the village, where they intended to amuse him with a sight of their warlike games.



‘Upon a large grassy plain, surrounded by a hundred Indian huts, he found the men assembled, with their upper garments thrown off, their faces painted in a hideous manner, and some with feathers in their hair as a mark of distinction. They announced to the strangers that there would be a mock fight, in honor of their *white father*. Accordingly they divided themselves into two companies, formed two camps at the two extremities of the plain, appointed two leaders, and challenged each other to a sort of combat, by uttering a frightful noise, the Indian *war-whoop*. Excited by this cry, which they use in their real battles, they began their sport. It was a game at ball, in which each party endeavoured to send a ball beyond a certain mark, and he who succeeded in doing it seven times, won the game. Whenever the ball fell to the ground, a scene of great confusion followed, each head was bent down to look for it, and all struggled to obtain it. On one of these occasions, when there was a long contest for the ball, one of the Indians left the group that was bent over it, and from a convenient distance took a run and a jump, and leaping on the shoulders of the other players, came down in the midst of the circle, seized the ball, and threw it for the seventh time beyond the mark. This victory was hailed, by the women who belonged to his party, with shouts of triumph, whilst those of the conquered camp

were consoling their husbands. The young Indian who performed this feat was the son of a chief, named McIntosh; he spoke English, and attended the General on his journey, interpreting for the party as they went. A violent storm of thunder and lightning, accompanied by torrents of rain, made the roads worse than ever; and they were frequently indebted to the kind services of the natives in getting out of difficulty. The streams they had to cross were much swollen by the rain, and at one place the torrent had risen above the bridge of logs over which the travellers had to pass. Here, to their astonishment, they found the position of the bridge marked out by a double line of Indians, who were standing breast-deep in the water, and holding each other by the hand, that the carriage of their *white father* might pass over in safety. The only return they desired for this service was the privilege of taking the General by the hand, in their way of salutation.

After journeying several days among the Indians, the party arrived at the frontier of their territory, and took an affectionate leave of the sons of the forest. At Montgomery, General Lafayette was received by the governor of Alabama, and spent a day amidst the festivities of that village, where a great number of people had assembled from distant parts of the state to see and welcome him. After attending a

ball there, Lafayette and his party embarked on the river Alabama, in a steam-boat richly fitted up for his use, with a band of music on board, and proceeded to Mobile. There great preparations had been made, but he could only stay one day ; that was of course crowded with entertainments, and at the close of it, he embarked for New Orleans, on board a fine boat called the Natchez, which had been prepared expressly for him. If you look on the map, you will see, that Lafayette might have passed from Mobile bay, behind a string of islands, over lakes Borgne and Ponchartrain, and have landed very near New Orleans ; but that passage would have required much more time than to cross the Gulf of Mexico in a straight line to the entrance of the Mississippi ; so this course was determined upon, and after a very rough and stormy voyage he entered that mighty river by one of its mouths, called the Balize. It was some time before the party could realize that they were in the river ; so distant were its shores, and so rough were its waters, that it seemed like another sea ; but, after some hours, they could perceive that it became narrower. The only vegetation to be seen on the muddy banks, for sixty miles from the mouth, are cypress trees, with a kind of dark-colored moss which hangs in abundance from their branches, and is called by the natives *Spanish beard*. When dry, it looks very

much like horse-hair, and is used in Louisiana for stuffing mattresses and cushions. But I must not stop to tell you of the wonders of this grand river ; if I do, tea will be ready before we have advanced any farther upon it with Lafayette.

‘There are so many French inhabitants in New Orleans, that the acclamations of the people were in that language, which must have struck the ear of the General very agreeably. A French theatre, French uniforms, the streets hung with drapery, all reminded him of his native land, and made him wish that his countrymen in Europe might enjoy the freedom of their American descendants. All the usual honors were paid to the Nation’s Guest in this city ; and, after partaking of them as long as he could, he continued his journey up the river Mississippi to Natchez, nearly three hundred miles above New Orleans. There he was received with the usual public honors, but the most interesting incident that occurred was this. Just as Lafayette had finished his speech to the Mayor, a man approached his carriage, waving his hat in the air and exclaiming aloud, “Honor to the commander of the Parisian National Guard ! I was under your orders in 1791, my General ; I still love liberty as I loved it then : long live Lafayette !”’

‘What an agreeable surprise,’ said Maria, ‘to find on the banks of the Mississippi, one of his own French soldiers !’

‘It forcibly reminded the venerable patriot of the fruitless efforts, made by his own country, to obtain that liberty which he so much desired for her, and made him sigh to think of her present condition. He shook the man kindly by the hand, and expressed his pleasure at meeting him in this land of liberty and hospitality. The children of Natchez were assembled in a body to see the Nation’s Guest, and permission was requested for him to be allowed to shake hands with him. This being granted, they passed before the general, and each placed a little hand in that which had fought for the liberty of their fore-fathers, whilst their parents looked on, delighted with the scene, and one of them was heard to say, “When these children are grown up, when they read the history of their country, and find the name of Lafayette intimately connected with all the events which led to the freedom they enjoy, they will remember the kindness of his manner, and the mildness of his voice, when he received them in their childhood, and they will love liberty the better for his sake.”’

‘I wish,’ said Henry, ‘that I had shaken hands with Lafayette; why were not the children of Boston allowed to do it, as well as the children of Natchez?’

‘Because there are twenty times as many children in Boston as there are in Natchez, and it would therefore have occupied too much

time, and been too troublesome to Lafayette. He staid longer, and was seen oftener, in large cities than in less populous towns and villages ; but where the number of inhabitants was small, they could see him more intimately, and a larger proportion could speak to him and shake hands with him.'

'That makes things even to be sure,' said Henry. 'Pray, mother, do n't look towards the tea-table, for I think father has not done telling us about Natchez.'

'I have one more anecdote, and then we must stop for this evening.' Just as Lafayette was leaving the place, an old revolutionary soldier stepped up to him, and, showing him his breast covered with scars, said, "These wounds are my pride ; I received them fighting by your side for the independence of my country. Your blood, General, flowed the same day ; it was at the unfortunate battle of Brandywine."—"That was indeed a rough day," replied Lafayette ; "but have we not been well rewarded for it since?"—"O, to be sure we have!" continued the old soldier ; "are we not this very day as happy as our hearts can desire? You receive the thanks and blessings of ten millions of freemen, and I press the hand of my brave commander ! Virtue always has its reward !" Every one was pleased with the enthusiasm and frankness of the old man, and no one more so than Lafayette.'

## THIRTEENTH EVENING.

‘WHAT an immense river the Mississippi must be!’ said Henry; ‘I have been showing Jane all the places on it that Lafayette visited; from the mouth upwards, and we had to look through three of my maps before we could get high enough up the river to see where St. Louis is. Maria found out by looking at the names in that French book, that he did not go any higher up than that town. I wonder he did not go a little farther for the sake of seeing the place where the Missouri flows into the Mississippi.’

‘He wished to do so very much,’ replied Mr. Moreton, ‘but he had not time. His journey was all laid out; he was expected at certain places on certain days, and he could not make any alteration in his plans without disappointing thousands, and keeping them waiting for him. As it was, he travelled upwards of fifteen hundred miles on that mighty river, and I have been told that he was extremely interested by such a novel kind of navigation. On board a fine steam-boat with a skilful captain, surrounded by agreeable companions, and provided with every convenience, he thought little of danger from the bursting of steam-boilers and running against *snags*.’

‘What are snags?’ inquired Jane.

‘They are trees that have been carried into

the river at the time of high floods ; one end generally becomes fixed in the mud at the bottom, while the other floats, either above or below the surface of the water, according to the depth of the stream, and the size of the tree. If they fix themselves upright, they are called *planters* ; if slanting, they incline the way the current flows, and have a motion up and down like a saw, from which they take the name of *sawyers*. The leaves and smaller boughs being washed away, leave the trunk and main branches sticking out in various directions. As the position of these snags is frequently changed, and they are besides very numerous, it is difficult to avoid them ; and if a boat, ascending the river, happens to strike against one of them, it is in great danger of being pierced and going to the bottom ; for the water pours in at the holes made by the snags, and the boat often sinks in a few minutes. When entirely under water, they cannot be seen in time to be avoided ; and accidents occur so often, in which both lives and property are lost, that Congress has appropriated large sums to be expended in removing them. This is done by means of machines, invented for the purpose.'

'How comes it that there are so many trees floating about in that river ?' asked Maria.

'Why, you must know that this gigantic stream often carries away and swallows up



whole acres of land, covered with trees of the largest growth; sometimes it overflows the country for many miles on each side of its proper bed, and occasionally it cuts new passages for itself, and changes its course. It is difficult for us to imagine the power of such a mighty river, or to picture to ourselves trees floating upon it (like weeds on our streams), which are as much larger than our forest trees as *they* are larger than our fruit trees.'

'O father!' exclaimed Henry, 'I never heard of such trees. How large are their trunks and how high are they?'

'They are frequently found twelve feet through and one hundred and fifty feet high. You may well suppose that an acre of such trees sunk in the river, and others sticking fast to them, would make a dangerous barrier for boats to pass over.'

'Indeed they would,' said Mrs. Moreton; 'and I only wonder that Lafayette's friends permitted him to risk his precious life in such a dangerous voyage.'

'I suppose he liked it, and it was a great gratification to the people of those distant regions to see this remarkable man; so I am glad he went. Above Natchez, the river winds through immense tracts of level land, parts of which are inundated for miles, and all covered with thick forests, that the sun's rays can scarcely penetrate. There is hardly a

habitation to be seen for miles together, and nothing that can be called a town all the way from Natchez to St. Louis. Woodmen, who gain a livelihood by supplying boats with fuel, live in huts, or log cabins, near the borders of the river. The only delay which Lafayette met with, in this part of his voyage, was where the boat stopped for a fresh supply of wood. Sometimes the choppers were gone into the forest and could not be found; in which case the Captain helped himself from their wood-pile to as much as he wanted, and left a note nailed to a tree, stating how many cords he had taken, telling his name and residence, the name of the boat, and date of her passage. These notes are often presented months afterwards at the great towns, and paid.

‘The wood-choppers entertained the travellers with accounts of disasters that had happened on the river; and, in one place, Lafayette saw the bank covered with passengers who were waiting for their boat to be repaired, a hole having been made in it by a snag. After passing the mouth of the Ohio, the shores of the Mississippi become more elevated and little settlements more frequent. Beautiful islands, bold capes, and high rocks diversify the scene; and the new and flourishing city of St. Louis rises amongst luxuriant shrubbery and pretty gardens, on the west bank of the Mississippi. The ancient forests of this western

world now rang with shouts of *Welcome, Lafayette*. The Nation's Guest was saluted in various languages, but with the same sentiments of gratitude and love that his presence had called forth elsewhere. As he could only stay a few hours the inhabitants lost no time in showing him the curiosities of the place; whilst dinner was preparing he rode out of town some distance, to see the curious mounds of earth, covered with turf, which have been so much talked about of late years, and which are by some supposed to be burying-places of the Indians. On his return, he visited an interesting museum, which contains a great variety of things collected by Lewis and Clark, whose Travels you have heard me read aloud to your mother. The dinner at St. Louis was rendered peculiarly agreeable to Lafayette by the presence of the founder of the city, Mr. Augustus Choteau, who, with his own axe, felled the first tree of the ancient forest, which then covered the ground now occupied by a flourishing city of six thousand souls. This enterprising citizen was also the companion in arms of Washington, and shared with him in the glorious campaign of Virginia; so Lafayette and he talked over old times, and enjoyed themselves much. After attending a ball, the General and his friends embarked in their commodious steam-boat, and descended the river at a rapid rate, only stopping a day at the large

village of Kaskaskia, where the inhabitants were unprepared for a visit from the Nation's Guest ; but the genuine admiration felt for his character, supplied all deficiencies, and the Governor of Illinois, who had been for some time in attendance upon Lafayette, made him an eloquent address on receiving him in his own territory.

‘ Continuing his voyage down the river, Lafayette soon entered the Ohio ; and at the mouth of Cumberland river, he was obliged to quit the steam-boat Natchez, which had been his home for nearly a month, in which he had travelled almost eighteen hundred miles, and had enjoyed the company of a large party of agreeable people ever since he left Louisiana. The shallow waters of the Cumberland required a smaller boat, and the deputation from Tennessee were desirous of doing the honors of their State to Lafayette. He ascended the river to Nashville, the capital of that state ; where he was received by General Jackson, at the head of a great procession, amid the ringing of bells and cheers of the people, and conducted under triumphal arches to the public square, where he heard and answered addresses. Thousands were assembled to see him from distant parts of the State, and, among the number, forty revolutionary soldiers saluted him with heartfelt emotions. One of these, a very aged man, who had travelled one hun-

dred and ninety miles to see Lafayette, threw himself into the General's arms, exclaiming with tears of joy "I have had two happy days in my life, that when I landed with you at Charleston in 1777, and this on which I see you once again; I have nothing more to wish for, I have lived long enough." This expression of emotion so touched the crowd, that there was a profound silence of some moments. Dinners, balls, and reviews followed in quick succession. Leaving Nashville, Lafayette rapidly descended Cumberland river to proceed on his voyage up the Ohio, which, when first discovered by the French, was called by them, "*the beautiful river*," and it well deserves the name. The second night that Lafayette passed on the Ohio, while he and his numerous party were retired to rest and nothing was to be heard but the jarring sound of the steam-engine as it forced the boat against the stream, they were suddenly roused by a violent shock which stopped the boat at once. In an instant every body was awake, some scrambling to get dressed, others running on deck to see what was the matter. "A snag! a snag!" cried the captain; "hasten, Lafayette, to my boat! bring Lafayette here!" The General was in that part of the boat called the ladies' cabin, and did not hear what had happened till his secretary ran to call him. "What is the matter?" said he very coolly. "We

shall all go to the bottom if we cannot get out of this boat directly ; we have not a moment to lose ! ” replied Mr. Levasseur. Still the General smiled at his friend’s haste, and continued to dress himself. When at last his son and secretary hurried him up the cabin stairs, he remembered his snuff-box, ornamented with a picture of Washington, which he valued very highly, and wished to go back for it, but this Mr. Levasseur prevented by going for it himself. At last he reached the deck, where all the passengers were in the greatest confusion, some bringing their trunks, others looking for the little boat that was to take them on shore, and many calling upon Lafayette. He was in the midst of them, but it was so dark he could not be recognised ; and the vessel *heeled* so much, that it was very difficult to stand or move on the deck. When the little boat was ready, the captain’s voice was heard calling for Lafayette ; “ Here is General Lafayette,” said his secretary, and immediately those who were scrambling to reach the boat themselves, drew back and opened a passage for him. He was very reluctant to go before his fellow passengers, but this was insisted upon by all. With great difficulty he was helped down in the dark, and was safely placed in the little bark that was to convey him and a few of his friends to the shore. Not until he reached land, did he perceive that his son was not with

him ; then his calmness forsook him, and he began to call "George ! George !" with all his strength. The cries of those on the wreck, and the noise of the steam escaping from the engine, prevented him from being heard, and the small boat passed to and from the shore several times, before his fears were relieved. At last he was told that his son was in safety, for the vessel touched the bottom and would not sink any farther, but that he could not be persuaded to leave the wreck whilst any one required his assistance. The presence of mind displayed by this gentleman, occasioned the captain to say, "Mr. George Lafayette must often have been shipwrecked ; for he has behaved to-night as if he were accustomed to such adventures."

' When all the passengers and crew were safely landed, they lighted fires, and passed the night without shelter in a heavy rain. At day-break, some went off to the wreck, to procure provisions, and to save what they could of the baggage. Some of the gentlemen were very active in their search, and succeeded in rescuing from the river a trunk of papers that Lafayette valued exceedingly. Fifty persons breakfasted upon one leg of smoked venison and some biscuit, which were all the stores that could be procured ; and then, as a storm was approaching, the General was carried across the river to the shelter of a cabin on the opposite

shore. All, however, were soon relieved from their uncomfortable situation. Two steam-boats were seen coming down the river; and one of them, a very large, handsome vessel, proved to be the Paragon, going to New Orleans, richly laden with whiskey and tobacco. It happened that one of her owners, Mr. Neilson, was among the shipwrecked party; and he did not hesitate to take upon himself the heavy responsibility of altering her destination, risking her meeting with damage, and losing the insurance made upon her, in order to accommodate Lafayette and his friends with a passage to Louisville. The captain of the wrecked boat was very much distressed, not at the loss of his vessel, or of twelve hundred dollars he had on board, or for fear that his reputation would suffer; but because the Nation's Guest had been shipwrecked, whilst under his care. This troubled him exceedingly; and though the passengers all signed a paper, in which they declared him free from blame, he could not be consoled.

‘After two days’ passage in the Paragon, the whole party arrived safely at Louisville, and Lafayette was received with increased tenderness of feeling in consequence of the dangers he had incurred by the way. In the midst of the joy and festivity, occasioned by the presence of the Nation's Guest, the generous merchant who had risked the greater part of his fortune to



accommodate him with a conveyance to this city, was not forgotten. The name of Neilson was joined to that of Lafayette, in the toasts that were given at the public dinner; the insurance company declared that the Paragon should remain insured, when she started again for New Orleans, without any additional charge; and the city presented him with a very superb piece of plate, on which was engraved the thanks of the Tennesseans and Kentuckians, for his disinterested conduct.'

'I do n't think,' said Henry, 'that there was any need of making such a fuss about what Mr. Neilson did; it seems to me that every body would have done the same in his situation.'

'Not every body, my son; there are some men who would not break up a vessel's voyage, and risk their fortune for any consideration of friendship or public feeling; but I hope it will always seem natural and easy to you to make such a sacrifice as Mr. Neilson did. And now, having told you so much about Lafayette's shipwreck, I must hasten to the end of his journey. After crossing the river, in very bad weather, to visit Jeffersonville, which is on the Indiana side of the Ohio, and receiving all the attentions at Louisville that the enthusiasm of the citizens could invent, the General set out by land for Cincinnati, that he might visit, by the way, Frankfort and Lexington, the principal towns of Kentucky. Amid the public

honors paid him at each of these places, the greatest peculiarity that I have heard of was his dining in the public square at Frankfort with eight hundred persons. In Lexington, he saw, with astonishment, a flourishing town with a population of six thousand persons, a college, and a ladies' academy, and heard himself publicly addressed in Latin, French, and English, on a spot, which, forty years ago, was an immense forest, inhabited only by savages. At Cincinnati, Lafayette entered the State of Ohio, and was received with all the ceremonies, and all the heartfelt joy, that had been shown him in other great cities. From there he proceeded, by the river, to Wheeling, thence, by land, to Pittsburg in Pennsylvania, and across that State to lake Erie !'

'Pray stop, father,' said Henry ; 'you travel so fast now, that I cannot follow you on my map or change it quick enough.'

'When you have found the town Erie, in Pennsylvania, you had better turn to your map of New York ; for he went from Erie to Dunkirk, where a steam-boat waited to convey him to Buffalo. Has either of you ever heard of Red Jacket ?'

'I have heard of him from Uncle William,' said Maria ; 'he is an old chief of the Seneca Indians, who used to be celebrated for his eloquence and his valor ; but now he is intemperate, and does little but lounge about the

neighbourhood of Buffalo. Uncle William said he wore a ruffled shirt and was drest like a white man; but he would not speak a word of English, though he understood it well; he chose to have every sentence interpreted into his own language before he would answer.'

'He did the same with Lafayette, and I wish the Indian's pride, that makes him refuse to speak our language, would keep him from drinking our liquors. When he called upon Lafayette he appeared to recognise him at once, though it was forty years since he had seen him. He reminded the General that they had been together at Fort Schuyler in 1784, where a great council had been held. Lafayette remembered being there very well, and asked him if he knew what had become of the young Indian who had so eloquently opposed "the burying of the tomahawk," (that is, making peace). "He is before you," replied the son of the forest, in his own expressive language. "Time has much changed us," said the General to him; "for then we were young and active." "Ah," exclaimed Red Jacket, "time has been less severe with you than with me; he has left you a fresh countenance and a head well covered with hair; whilst as for me—look!" On this he took off a handkerchief that had been tied round his head, and showed, with a melancholy air, that it was entirely bald. The company present could not help

smiling at the simplicity of the Indian, who seemed to have no idea that a person could wear any man's hair but his own, and did not suspect that Lafayette could have showed as bald a head as he, if he had chosen to take off his wig.'

'Did Lafayette wear a wig?' said Henry; 'then that is the reason why his hair was so straight across his forehead that I remembered him by it. I wish he had taken it off to astonish Red Jacket; he would have supposed that the General had scalped himself.'

Whilst Henry was showing Jane how he would have done it, in order to impose upon the old chief, and Jane laughed at his conceit, Maria asked if Lafayette visited Niagara.

'He did, and was no doubt much gratified by the sight; though he could not enjoy it so fully when surrounded by the great number of people that followed him every where, as if he had been there alone, or with a very few. After visiting Lewiston and Fort Niagara, he embarked at Lockport, on the great canal. That village has suddenly arisen in the wilderness, and is thriving in a most astonishing manner. It takes its name from the numerous locks which have been constructed there at a vast expense, to complete the course of the canal; they are cut out of the solid rock to the depth of twenty-five feet, and appeared to Lafayette to be such astonishing works of art

in this young country, that, at a dinner given him there, his toast was, "Lockport, and the county of Niagara, — they contain the greatest wonders of art and nature, prodigies only to be surpassed by those of liberty and equal rights." The Nation's Guest was saluted at this place with a novel kind of artillery; hundreds of small charges of powder, placed in the rock by the workmen employed in quarrying it to form the canal, exploded at once, and sent a shower of stones into the air, accompanied by acclamations from the crowd. Leaving Lockport in the evening, and travelling all night in the canal-boat, Lafayette arrived in the morning at Rochester. He had not quitted the cabin, when, hearing his name shouted by numerous voices, he went on deck to see where he was, and found himself in the midst of a crowd, which lined each side of the canal, and yet crowd, canal, and all, seemed to be suspended in the air; several cataracts were tumbling around with a thundering noise, and a river was rolling beneath at a distance of fifty feet. He was at that place where the canal crosses the Genesee river, by means of an aqueduct upwards of four hundred yards in length, supported by stone arches; and he was surprised to hear that the canal passes in this way over several wide and deep rivers.

'At Rochester, Lafayette left the canal, and travelled by land through the villages of Canan-

daigua, Geneva, Auburn, Skaneateles, Marcellus, &c., and returned to it at Syracuse. He travelled day and night, and could only pass a few minutes at each place, to express his thanks to the citizens, who had prepared entertainments which he could not stop to partake of. On arriving at Syracuse, at six in the morning, he perceived, by the fading lights of an illumination and the crowds in the streets, that the inhabitants had been expecting him all night; he made his breakfast of the meal which had been prepared for his supper. From Syracuse, the travellers proceeded on the canal to Skenectady; but I must tell you one little circumstance that occurred just as he was leaving Utica. The canal-boat, drawn by superb white horses, had begun to glide through the water; three cheers expressed the parting salutations of the inhabitants; children placed on the bridges showered down flowers; the boat passed underneath, and Lafayette was standing on the deck, with his hat off, bowing his thanks to the people, when shouts were heard from a man, who was running after the boat and making signs for it to stop. His copper color, half naked body, and grotesque ornaments, showed that he was an Indian. When he found the boat would not stop for him, he ran so fast as to get before it, and place himself on a bridge beneath which it must pass; as it went under, he jump-

ed upon the deck, and, without losing his balance, stood erect in the midst of the company. "Where is Kayewla? I wish to see Kayewla," cried he with agitation. The General was pointed out to him. He looked at him with evident satisfaction; then, stretching out his hand, he said, "I am the son of Wekchekaeta, of him who loved you so well, that he followed you to your own country, when you returned there, after the great war; my father has often spoken to me of you, and I am glad to see you." The General knew that Wekchekaeta was dead, and he was pleased to meet with his son. After some minutes' conversation, and a present of a few dollars, the Indian left the boat as easily as he had joined it, by springing to the bank of the canal, whilst the boat was in motion. This singular visit excited the curiosity of Lafayette's companions, and he satisfied it by telling them the history of Wekchekaeta, who followed him to Europe in 1778, but was soon disgusted with civilization, and joyfully returned to his native wilds; but, as Mr. Levasseur does not tell the story, I cannot give it to you. We have now greatly exceeded our half hour, so I will only add, that Lafayette reached Albany on the 12th of June, and Boston on the 15th, which gave him one day's rest before the celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of the battle of Bunker-hill.'

## FOURTEENTH EVENING.

‘I AM sorry,’ said Henry to his father, ‘that you have done with Lafayette’s journey, for I liked to hear of all his adventures by land and by water.’

‘His safe return from that long and perilous journey was a matter of great rejoicing to his numerous friends; and his punctual arrival in Boston, on the very day he originally planned to be there, surprised many who had not believed it possible for him to accomplish his tour in the time allotted for it. It was to be sure a great performance. In less than four months, he had travelled five thousand miles; he had traversed our country from the Atlantic coast to the Mississippi, from the Gulf of Mexico to Lake Erie; he had received the homage of sixteen flourishing republics. Exposed to dangers of various kinds, and liable to be detained by accidents, which no care or foresight could prevent, it was remarkable that he should have performed all his engagements punctually, and arrived in Boston on the very day fixed for his return. And when we consider, that, to do all this, he often had to travel day and night, and to endure great fatigue, we must think that he possessed an uncommon degree of health and strength for a man sixty-seven years old.’



‘I am glad he had one day to rest,’ said Mrs. Moreton, ‘before the Bunker-hill celebration.’

‘He rested from travelling, to be sure,’ replied Mr. Moreton; ‘but he did a pretty hard day’s work too. He went by invitation to the State-house, and was there received in form by the Governor, the Senate, and the House of Representatives, with the city authorities of Boston, all assembled together. The Governor congratulated him, in the name of the State of Massachusetts, on the safe termination of his long journey; and he replied in a speech that interested and delighted all who heard it. Many strangers of distinction were present, and the galleries were filled with ladies. When his speech was ended, the members of both houses crowded around him, to express their private feelings and congratulations. The rest of the day was spent in the company of numerous friends.

‘Salutes of artillery and the ringing of bells announced the fiftieth anniversary of the memorable battle on Bunker-hill, which was to be celebrated by Lafayette’s laying the corner-stone of a monument, and Mr. Webster’s delivering an oration. The weather was as fine as possible; every thing seemed to favor the occasion. A procession of seven thousand persons was formed at the State-house, and proceeded, through Charlestown, to

the sacred spot. Two hundred officers and soldiers of the revolution marched at the head ; and forty veterans, the surviving heroes who had fought on Bunker-hill, followed in open carriages. These were decorated with ribands, on which was stamped, *June 17th, 1775*. Some of them wore the cartouche-boxes they had emptied on that memorable day ; and one, who had been a drummer, carried the very drum, the sound of which had so often rallied the American battalions, when broken by the English columns. Lafayette was in the midst of the procession, in an elegant barouche, drawn by six white horses. After a very slow march of two hours, through a dense crowd, collected from all parts of the Union, the procession arrived at the place where the foundation for the monument was prepared ; and the corner-stone was laid by the General, with the ceremonies usual on such occasions. The procession then marched to a part of the hill where a platform had been erected for the orator of the day, and where ranges of seats accommodated a part of the procession. The survivors of those who fought at Bunker-hill were placed nearest the orator ; then the other revolutionary soldiers, and at their head sat Lafayette, the only surviving General of the revolution. On each side of the platform, on which Mr. Webster stood, were seats for the ladies, arranged with awnings ; and beyond the veterans the rest

of the procession, which was seated on numerous benches, placed in a semicircular form, on the rising ground before the platform. Thousands, who were beyond the reach of the orator's voice, covered the hill before him, and formed a moving mass of human beings, marvellous to behold. Behind Mr. Webster was a choir of musicians, who played and sang an appropriate hymn; then a prayer was offered by the Rev. Mr. Thaxter, who had himself been a combatant on that field of glory, fifty years before; and when he appeared, with his white locks and venerable figure, and lifted up his withered hands in supplication, every heart was moved. Last came the orator of the day, in all his gigantic strength of mind and body. The dignity of his person, the fire of his eye, and the elevated expression of his face agreed perfectly with the grandeur of the scene around him, and he delivered one of the most powerful orations that was ever heard in our land. In one part of his speech, he addressed the revolutionary soldiers; and they, with Lafayette at their head, rose and stood uncovered the while. Never shall I forget the emotion it produced among *those veterans of half a century*, as he called them, or in those who saw and heard what passed. The whole scene was so animating, and the words of Mr. Webster were so stirring to the spirit, that I cannot even think of it, at this distance of time, without

being moved by the recollection. You are old enough, Maria, to read and enjoy the whole oration, and I will give it to you; but Henry and Jane will understand it better some time hence; so I will only read them one paragraph in it, which was particularly addressed to Lafayette.

“Fortunate, fortunate man! with what measure of devotion will you not thank God, for the circumstances of your extraordinary life! You are connected with both hemispheres and with two generations. Heaven saw fit to ordain, that the electric spark of Liberty should be conducted, through you, from the new world to the old; and we, who are now here to perform this duty of patriotism, have all of us long ago received it in charge from our fathers to cherish your name and your virtues. You will account it an instance of your good fortune, sir, that you crossed the seas to visit us at a time which enables you to be present at this solemnity. You now behold the field, the renown of which reached you in the heart of France, and caused a thrill in your ardent bosom. You see the lines of the little redoubt thrown up by the incredible diligence of Prescott; defended, to the last extremity, by his lion-hearted valor; and within which the corner-stone of our monument has now taken its position. You see where Warren fell, and where Parker, Gardner, McCleary,

Moore, and other early patriots fell with him. Those who survived that day, and whose lives have been prolonged to the present hour, are now around you. Some of them you have known in the trying scenes of war. Behold ! they now stretch forth their feeble arms to embrace you. Behold ! they raise their trembling voices to invoke the blessing of God on you, and yours, for ever."

' A hymn closed the services, and then the procession was again formed, and proceeded to another part of the hill, where, under a temporary roof, a dinner was provided for four thousand persons. A large assembly at Mr. Webster's finished this memorable day.

' I must not forget to tell you, that to make way for the stone obelisk which was to be raised on the summit of Bunker-hill, a little wooden pyramid, that was early erected to the memory of Warren and his brave companions, was taken down ; and from the principal piece of timber in it, a walking stick was formed ; this, with a golden head and an inscription on it, was presented to Lafayette by the citizens of Charlestown, and valued by him as a precious relic of the American revolution.

' After this celebration was over, he spent a few days in the enjoyment of private society, and then set off on a hurried journey through Maine, New-Hampshire, and Vermont, where he had been pressingly invited by the people.

As Henry likes to trace Lafayette's route on the map, I will just name the principal places he passed through, in his visit to those States, but I cannot undertake to describe the entertainments given him at any of them. He went first to Concord, in New-Hampshire, then by Dover and Kennebunk to Portland; from there he crossed the country to Burlington, on Lake Champlain; and went down that beautiful lake to Whitehall in a steam-boat. Thence he proceeded by land to Albany, where he embarked on the Hudson, and made his passage to New York in one night. He had accepted an urgent invitation to be present at the celebration of Independence, in New York, and he reached the city, at day-light, on the fourth of July. There was no rest for him that day; for besides the ceremonies which belonged to the occasion, he was taken to Brooklyn, at 8 o'clock in the morning, to lay the corner-stone of the "Mechanics' Library." After attending church, he was presented to the Senate and House of Representatives by the Governor; then he reviewed troops till dinner-time; and after that went to the theatre.'

'O dear, what a day's work!' exclaimed Mrs. Moreton; 'I hope he was allowed some rest after it.'

'Yes, he spent several days in comparative retirement, though he was all the time in the society of his particular friends. Whilst La-

fayette was receiving from a whole nation the most flattering attentions, his own country was not indifferent to the honors rendered to one of her sons, upon a distant shore ; but after enjoying his triumph, and reëchoing the praises sounded by America, the friends of freedom in France became very desirous of the return of their countryman, and Lafayette was determined to embark for Europe before winter. Notwithstanding the extreme heat of the weather in Philadelphia during the summer months, he paid another visit to that city, for the purpose of viewing more deliberately some of its public works, and some places in its neighbourhood, celebrated in the revolutionary war. From Philadelphia he went to Wilmington, where a number of revolutionary soldiers, Pennsylvanians and Virginians, were in waiting to attend him to the field of battle on the banks of the Brandywine. Arrived there, he distinctly recollected all the principal points of attack and defence ; he spoke much of the presence of mind shown by Washington on the fatal 11th of September, and of the courage of the soldiers and officers who supported him. When his carriage approached the spot where he had been wounded, he stopped a moment to indulge the recollections that thronged upon him, but did not allude to his own part in the action. He soon found, however, that it was fresh in the remembrance of all

present. The militia passed by his carriage with the loudest acclamations, and "Long live Lafayette" was repeated again and again by all around him. From the field of battle he went to West Chester, to pass the rest of the day amid the festivities prepared for him. The next day, he took a last leave of a great number of the soldiers of 1777, who could not part from him without tears. He proceeded to Lancaster, where fresh entertainments awaited him, and thence to Baltimore, on his way to Washington; where he was desirous of remaining a week as a private citizen. Since his last visit, Mr. Monroe had gone out of office, and Mr. Adams had succeeded him; and he was now allowed to be the guest of the President, and to make one of his family.

Lafayette greatly enjoyed the week of retirement which he passed in Mr. Adams's family, as well as the visit he paid to the Ex-President Monroe, at his country seat, thirty-seven miles from Washington, whither Mr. Adams accompanied him. He afterwards made a little tour in Virginia, and received some public attentions, when on his way to visit his old friend Jefferson, and to take a last leave of him. At Monticello Mr. Madison and Mr. Monroe joined him, and the meeting of four such remarkable men as the three Presidents and Lafayette, made the visit seem but too short to all. Their parting was a very sad one; for, at their time of



life, they could not hope to meet again, after the ocean should once more separate them. The 7th of September was the day fixed for the departure of the Nation's Guest; and a new frigate, named the Brandywine in compliment to him, was appointed to carry him back to his native country. The last days of his stay were filled with sad farewells; and the grand dinner given by the President on the 6th of September, in honor of Lafayette's birthday, was too near the time of his departure to be a joyous occasion. The Brandywine waited for her illustrious passenger at the mouth of the Potomac, and a steam-boat was to convey him on board of her from the city. Early on the 7th, the people deserted their workshops, and left their stores unopened, that they might assemble around the President's house, and take a last look at the venerable patriot who was about to leave them; while the militia was drawn up in a line on the road he must pass, to reach the shores of the Potomac. The President, surrounded by all the officers of state, and various public characters and distinguished citizens, were assembled in the great hall of the President's house, to take a solemn leave of the Guest of the Nation. When he had taken his place in the centre of the group, the hall doors were thrown open, that people without might behold the scene; and then the President made him a farewell speech in the

name of the nation. It was a most affecting and eloquent address, full of enthusiastic feeling for Lafayette, and expressed so well the sentiments of the company that they could hardly restrain their emotions. Mr. Adams's closing words were these.

“Speaking in the name of the whole people of the United States, and at a loss only for language to give utterance to that feeling of attachment, with which the heart of the nation beats, as the heart of one man, — I bid you a reluctant and affectionate farewell.”

‘Lafayette was so deeply affected, that he was obliged to pause a few moments before he could reply. At last he made an effort to command his voice; and then he poured out the genuine feelings of his heart, in a manner worthy of the occasion and of himself. After speaking of the happiness, the prosperity, the true greatness of the American Nation, and of the extraordinary favors he had received from it, he concluded with these simple, heartfelt expressions.

“God bless you, sir, and all who surround us. God bless the American people, each of their States, and the federal government. Accept this patriotic farewell of an overflowing heart; such will be its last throb ere it ceases to beat.”

‘A sorrowful scene followed of last adieus

and tearful partings ; at last he slowly reached his carriage ; from the top of the steps, at the door of the mansion, Mr. Adams repeated his signal of adieu, and at the same moment all the colors of the troops, drawn up around the house, were bowed to the earth as a military sign of farewell to the General. He embarked on the river Potomac, amidst silent crowds of sorrowful friends ; but, when the steam-boat pushed off, there arose a general murmur of grief, which mingled with the hoarse sound of the artillery of Fort Washington.

‘ In a few hours, he reached the Brandywine and was received on board with all naval honors ; the friends who had accompanied him down the river took their leave, and Commodore Morris gave orders to weigh anchor ; but just then another steam-boat appeared in sight, and showed a wish to speak with the Brandywine. It proved to be a boat from Baltimore, carrying a great number of the General’s best friends from that city, who had come to see him once more, and take a last leave of him. They remained on board till evening, when it was thought too late for the Brandywine to set sail ; and, in consequence of this delay, his departure was graced by the same natural phenomenon that occurred on his arrival in the United States. I believe I did not tell you that the first arch

under which he stood on American ground was a *rainbow*; but so it was; and when, on the 8th of September, the Brandywine entered Chesapeake Bay, under full sail, there was a fine arch in the heavens, one end of which appeared to rest on the Maryland shore, and the other, on that of Virginia.'

'How remarkable!' said Maria; 'it was as though Nature chose to erect the first and last of all the triumphal arches that were made in honor of the Nation's Guest.'

'Every attention had been paid to the comfort and convenience of Lafayette on board the Brandywine, and the vessel was put entirely at his disposal, to carry him wherever he pleased. The commander was one of the most distinguished officers in the American navy, and all who served under him were of high reputation. When it was known that the Brandywine was to convey the Nation's Guest to France, the President was beset with applications from all parts of the Union for the place of midshipman on board the frigate. Every parent, who was going to put a son into the navy, was desirous that he should sail with Lafayette. Wishing to gratify as many as possible, and to divide the favor equally throughout the Union, the President decided that each state should be represented by a midshipman, and allowed the Brandywine to carry twenty-four, instead of

eight or ten, which is the usual number. These youths were delighted with having the privilege of attending Lafayette to France, and showed their sense of the favor by their strict attention to their naval duties and their studies. Lafayette often conversed with them, and to some he could tell stories of their fathers. His paternal kindness so won their hearts, that they could not part from him without tears ; and, when they arrived in France, they subscribed for a handsome silver Urn, which they begged him to accept as a token of their filial attachment. After a rough but short passage of twenty-four days, the frigate arrived safely at Havre, where several of Lafayette's family met him and he had good news of the rest. The inhabitants of Havre were rejoiced to see the good patriot safe among them again, and thronged around his carriage with salutations of welcome.

‘ On his way to La Grange, he passed through Rouen, where the same feelings prevailed ; but, as soon as the people of that city began to express them, they were stopped by the magistrates. A collection of respectable citizens had assembled round the door of the house where Lafayette was dining, with a band of music to salute him ; but were dispersed at the point of the bayonet or the sword, by a body of the king's soldiers, who *charged* the unarmed crowd, regardless of the cries of women and

children. Thus was Lafayette forcibly reminded of the difference between the government of his own country and of that of his adoption ; thus was he made to feel, as soon as he arrived upon his native soil, that France, beautiful, fertile France, was under a despotic government, and that the true friends of freedom were regarded with a jealous eye by all who administered it. On Lafayette's leaving Rouen the next morning, a set of resolute young men determined to escort him several miles on his way ; and in spite of the royal troops, on guard in different parts of the city, being doubled in number, and every appearance that force would be used, they persisted in their intention ; and the magistrates, seeing how firm they were, thought it best not to interfere. This escort increased on leaving the town, and continued with the General to the place where he changed horses ; they then took leave of him, after having presented him with a crown, made of a flower which the French call "*immortelle*" ; it is a kind of everlasting, and their name for it being *immortal*, it is a pretty emblem of imperishable fame. On the 9th of October, General Lafayette reached his beloved and happy home. For three days previous, the inhabitants of the surrounding country had been making preparations to receive him in a manner expressive of their delight at his return. On entering his own pleasure-grounds, he found a large collection

of friends and neighbours waiting to salute him ; and leaving his carriage, he walked to his house amidst their expressions of joy at his arrival. The house was filled all day ; and in the evening the good patriot was conducted, by the light of an illumination and with the sound of music, under a triumphal arch, bearing an inscription, in which he was called " The friend of the people." The next day was occupied in receiving deputations, and visits of congratulation on his safe return ; and young girls brought him offerings of flowers, and sang songs in his praise.

‘ Another *fête*, more brilliant than the first, was given him by the inhabitants of a neighbouring district. In this, all the preparations were made by artisans who would receive no pay for their services, though a subscription had been made to defray the expenses. More than four thousand persons were collected at La Grange ; and after speeches and songs and the presentation of flowers were over, Lafayette was conducted in triumph to a meadow, where an elegant tent had been pitched for him and his family, and where illuminations, fire-works, and dances beguiled the time till a late hour, and shouts of " Long live the people's friend ! " were heard all night.

‘ When these rejoicings had subsided, he returned to his agricultural pursuits and domestic enjoyments with the same relish he had

for them before his remarkable visit to this country.

‘He took great pleasure in cultivating American plants, rearing American stock, and arranging the numerous presents he had received in this country. I should like to see a list of all the gifts that were made him during his visit, for I have no doubt there were many queer things among them. I remember hearing that the boatmen of New York made him a present of a beautiful boat, called the American Star, which had won the race in a rowing-match between them and some English sailors. On Lafayette’s return, he built a house on purpose for that boat, in which it is preserved with the greatest care. Various implements of husbandry and pieces of machinery were presented to him, besides a great number of things, only valuable as relics of the revolutionary war.’

‘I think,’ said Henry, ‘he must have a grand museum of American curiosities.’

‘Some of our countrymen, who have visited him at La Grange, since his return, say that he is surrounded by objects which remind him of America, and that he loves to talk of his adopted country.’

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## ● FIFTEENTH EVENING.

‘Now for the last revolution in Paris!’ exclaimed Henry. ‘I have heard you read in the newspapers about the *great week*, and about Lafayette’s being commander of the National Guards once more; but I do not understand it, father; so pray explain it all to us.’

‘You forget,’ observed Maria, ‘that there are five years between Lafayette’s return to France and the fight in Paris the other day. I wish to know what he was doing all that time.’

‘He usually spent half the year at his country seat, in the manner already described, and the other half in Paris, where his public duties called him; for he was constantly chosen representative of the people, or Deputy, as the French say. During Lafayette’s visit to this country, Louis the Eighteenth died, and was succeeded by Charles the Tenth. You may remember that I told you Louis the Eighteenth granted the people a charter, or written promise, that they should always enjoy certain rights and privileges; now, when Charles the Tenth came to the throne, he also swore to maintain it. But, faithless to his oath, he and his Ministers were continually endeavouring to encroach upon that charter, and to deprive the nation of what little liberty they still

possessed ; whilst Lafayette and other friends of freedom were always resisting these attempts, by speaking their sentiments boldly in the Chamber of Deputies, and by voting against all tyrannical measures. In 1829, they were obliged to make great exertions, to preserve the charter from the attacks of the king ; and when the session was over, and the members returned to those parts of the country which they represented, the cordial reception they met with showed the gratitude of the people for their services. About that time Lafayette made a journey to the province of Auvergne, where he was born ; it is divided into two departments, named Cantal, and Puy de Dôme.'

'Pray, stop one minute, father,' said Henry ; and off he ran to fetch his atlas. He soon reappeared with his maps in one hand, and a lamp in the other ; and from his knowledge of geography, he very readily found the two departments, and pointed them out to Jane.

Mr. Moreton then continued :

'General Lafayette was accompanied in this tour by his son and two grand-daughters, one of whom was married to a Mr. Périet, a deputy from Auvergne. The purpose of his journey was, to visit his family connexions, and to view the city of Lyons, which he had not seen for forty years. But he soon found that he could not appear, without becoming the object of popular enthusiasm. He was met on

the road, between each town through which he passed, by large companies of gentlemen on horseback, by bands of music, and by crowds of people, who filled the air with their acclamations in honor of the venerable and faithful Deputy. At Clermont, the ancient capital of Auvergne, and at Brioude, which is the town nearest his birth-place, he was received in a manner that showed the personal regard felt for him as one born among them, as well as the high respect and admiration which his public character inspired. As he proceeded, the enthusiasm increased; and there was mingled with it a great deal of patriotic feeling for the unhappy state of the nation under the bad government of Charles the Tenth.

‘Whilst the citizens of Puy were entertaining the great champion of their rights with a dinner, concert, and other festivities, news arrived from Paris that the king had taken for his ministers and advisers, certain men who had shown themselves to be wholly in favor of absolute monarchy, and that he had put Prince Polignac at the head of them. Now Puy was the native place of Polignac and all his ancestors; and the French are generally pleased to hear of the advancement of their townsmen to places of distinction; but in this case, they were so well aware of the illiberal principles of Polignac, that they were very indignant at his being made prime minister to Charles the Tenth, and showed their feelings in the

speeches that were made, and the toasts that were given, at the grand dinner prepared for Lafayette. All hearts were turned to him as the true friend of liberty; his former deeds and sufferings in the cause, were affectionately remembered, and when he gave as a toast, "The Chamber of Deputies; it is the hope of France," it was received with unbounded applause.

'From Puy, Lafayette went to the ancient city of Grenoble, and received on his way the respectful salutations of every town and village through which he passed. At one place he arrived unexpectedly, and after dark; but he had hardly entered the town before the news spread, and every street through which he passed was suddenly illuminated. Preparations were made to serenade him with a band of music, belonging to the town; but, when the performers went for their instruments, they found them all locked up by the Mayor, on purpose to prevent it.'

'What made him do so?' asked Henry, in great surprise.

'I suppose he was in favor of absolute monarchy, and did not approve of Lafayette's conduct; or else he was a selfish man, only studying his own interests, and knew this would be the best way of securing his place as Mayor; for in France all such offices are in the gift of the government, and not at the disposal of the

citizens, as they are with us. The musical instruments being locked up did not prevent the people from assembling under the windows of the General, and singing songs in his praise, till a late hour of the night.

‘ At Grenoble, he was received with every mark of respect and admiration. He was met by a large deputation of the first citizens, accompanied by a long procession, and cheered by the multitude, as he entered that city. There, a crown of wrought silver, ornamented with oak-leaves, was presented to him, and a speech made, to which he replied in a manner that warmed all hearts. After this, he was conducted to the house of Mr. Augustin Périer, whose son his grand-daughter had married, and there he spent the night. The town was illuminated, the General was serenaded, and the next day, a grand dinner was given to *The Citizen of two Worlds*, as the French often call Lafayette.

‘ Seven miles from Grenoble is the town of Vizille ; it is situated in a beautiful and fertile valley, surrounded by high mountains, which are a part of the Alps ; and on a commanding point stands the ancient feudal castle of the Périer family, where Lafayette’s grand-daughter resided. Thither the General went, accompanied by Mr. Augustin Périer, and a large party of relations. The inhabitants of the valley left their work and thronged around the

carriages of the travellers. A large number of citizens had escorted the General from Grenoble ; these were joined by seventy persons on horseback from Vizille ; and when the escorts met, they made the mountains ring with shouts of " Long live Lafayette ! " The Mayor of Vizille, unlike the man who locked up the musical instruments, did the honors of his town to the patriot General, and made him a long speech, in which he freely expressed his admiration of the character and principles which Lafayette had always maintained. The consequence of this was a dismissal from his office, as soon as it was known to the Minister of the Interior in Paris.'

Henry thought it a great shame to dismiss a man for that ; but he agreed with Maria, that he would rather be in the place of the Mayor who lost his office, than of the one who kept it ; and they were both much pleased to hear that the inhabitants of Vizille gave a public entertainment and a grand serenade to the dismissed Mayor, as a proof of their approbation of his conduct.

' And what is more,' continued Mr. Moreton, ' the gentleman appointed to fill his place refused it, saying he also had joined in the public honors paid to Lafayette, and could not therefore be a proper person for the office. But to return to Lafayette's arrival at Vizille ; after passing through the town and receiving

the homage of its inhabitants, he was conducted to the castle, where the festivities were continued through the day. At night bon-fires were lighted upon the surrounding hills, and the peasants danced around them till a late hour, while the venerable patriot enjoyed the company of his descendants to the third generation; for at the castle he was presented with a great grand-daughter.'

'Indeed!' said Mrs. Moreton; 'then there were four generations there; what a family party! But pray go on, and tell us about his visit to Lyons.'

'The Mayor of that city was disposed to favor the wishes of Charles the Tenth, and therefore he gave notice, before Lafayette arrived, that no public rejoicings would be allowed; he forbade all collecting of crowds together, all entertainments and serenading, upon pain of arrest and prosecution for disturbance of the peace. But the citizens of Lyons were not to be thus frightened out of showing the profound respect and admiration they had long felt for Lafayette, and they continued their preparations without paying the least attention to the Mayor's proclamation. They were resolved on showing their contempt for such an unjust prohibition, and on making their reception of the venerable patriot as brilliant and as striking as possible. Nothing was omitted that could do honor to this faithful

guardian of their rights ; and his visit to Lyons was marked by such a strong and decided expression of popular feeling, that the Mayor did not venture to do any thing more to oppose it. In the various addresses which were made to Lafayette, a hope was continually expressed, that he would yet be able to do great things for his country. In one of the speeches are these words : •

“ You have done enough for your own glory, and for history, but your country still requires your services. You obeyed the first summons, given you in her name ; you raised a voice in her councils, which the ancient friends of freedom could not mistake ; the defenders of our rights have rallied around you, and with such a leader, they cannot fail to triumph over all attempts to deprive us of those just rights, which we have acquired by forty years of suffering.”

‘ All that occurred during this tour of Lafayette, shows that the people of France were prepared to resist any despotic measures on the part of the government, and that they looked to him as a leader, in the event of any popular commotion. His enemies pretended that he made that journey on purpose to stir up the people’s minds, and that secret means were taken to procure him such an honorable reception wherever he went ; but those who knew him better, and were acquainted with



the facts of the case, said that the homage paid him was wholly spontaneous and unexpected, and that he merely went to Auvergne to pay some family visits. It is well known that he refused a great many invitations from other towns, which sent deputations to him at Lyons. Indeed, there can be no doubt, that if he had wished it, he might have continued his triumphal progress, through the kingdom, to the very gates of Paris; for there was not a department in France, the inhabitants of which would not have been as much excited by his presence, as those which he had already visited. But he modestly refused all further honors; and from Lyons he returned immediately to La Grange, in the most private manner possible. And now I can tell you nothing more of him till the disturbances took place in Paris, which we lately heard of; but that account must be deferred till to-morrow evening.'

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## SIXTEENTH EVENING.

'HENRY is so impatient to hear about the fight in Paris,' said Maria to her father, 'that he is delighted at your having come to that part of the story; but, for my part, I am sorry that you are so near the end of it.'

‘I never once thought of that,’ replied Henry ; ‘and I do love to hear about wars and fightings in a good cause. Don’t you, father?’

‘I am always glad to hear of tyranny and oppression of every kind being successfully resisted ; and since the French people could not save themselves from despotism in any other way, I rejoice that they triumphed over the king’s troops. I cannot, however, think without sorrow of the horrors of civil war. When we hear of these things at a distance, we do not realize the suffering that attends them. But fancy that this street was filled with people, many of them our acquaintances, fighting against regular troops ; that several were wounded, some dying or dead ; that the balls were flying in every direction ; that your mother and sisters were in danger of being killed by a random shot ; and that you or I, Henry, were just disabled by a bad wound, and brought into this parlour, bleeding and helpless. If you could bring such a scene home to your feelings, you would perceive that civil war is a very sad and serious business.’

Jane’s tender heart was so touched by this picture of domestic suffering, that she put her hand before her father’s mouth, and begged him, with tears in her eyes, not to talk any more about such shocking things. Henry looked very grave, but still expressed a wish to hear all the particulars of the three days’

fight; and Mr. Moreton continued his narrative of the events which led to the great revolution in Paris, of July, 1830.

‘When next the Chamber of Deputies met, after Lafayette’s journey to Lyons, he and the other liberal members had enough to do, to resist the tyrannical measures which the new ministry, with Polignac at their head, were continually trying to force upon the nation. In the answer of the Chamber to the King’s speech, the Deputies spoke their minds very plainly, and told Charles the Tenth that the government could not be carried on, unless he dismissed his present ministry. He, however, was so bent on upholding and increasing his own power, that he would not listen to reason; he dismissed the Chamber for opposing him, and gave orders for a new election, believing the country would choose persons more favorable to his views. In this, he was greatly mistaken; for notwithstanding a royal proclamation was issued, commanding the electors to vote for such men only as approved of the existing ministry, the same true patriots, who had before resisted them, were again elected to represent the nation, and Charles the Tenth gained nothing by his new elections.

‘While these things were going on, a French expedition was sent against Algiers, and met with complete success. That strong-hold of pirates, which had, for a long period, been the terror

of all Europe, was taken by the French ; the Dey and his troops were made prisoners of war ; and the treasures of the government were seized to pay the expenses of the expedition.

‘ Charles the Tenth was so elated by the success of his arms abroad, that his ministers easily persuaded him, he could obtain as great a triumph over his own people, by the mere expression of his will and pleasure. A few days, therefore, after the news of the capture of Algiers reached Paris, that weak and selfish monarch published those famous ordinances, or general orders, which cost him his crown, and revolutionized France. There were three of them ; one for the dissolution of the Chamber, that is, the dismissal of the members ; another for altering the law of elections, so that he should not again be troubled by the friends of freedom ; a third, for taking away the liberty of the press, that is, preventing people from publishing any sentiment which the king’s government did not approve. As there were many periodical works and newspapers, that had always been opposed to the present ministry, they were all to be suppressed at once. These ordinances were in direct violation of the charter, which Charles the Tenth had sworn to maintain, and would, if they had been carried into effect, have made him an absolute monarch, and have reduced his people to political slavery.’

‘I am glad,’ said Henry, ‘that he did not succeed, and that he was dethroned for his wicked attempt.’

‘Certainly no one ever merited his fate better ; and yet he was so ignorant of the state of public feeling, and so blind to the consequences of what he had done, that after signing those famous ordinances, he went on a party of pleasure to Rambouillet, about twenty-seven miles from Paris, to amuse himself with hunting.’

‘Is it possible,’ said Mrs. Moreton, ‘that he thought he could so easily enslave a great nation ? by a few strokes of his pen only !’

‘Yes, he and his ministers believed the French people would quietly submit to this outrage ; they did not even make any preparations for resistance, though they might have taken warning by what the editor of the government paper said, when the famous ordinances were put into his hands. It was late on Sunday night, the 25th of July, when they were given to him, with orders to publish them the next morning ; and on looking over their contents, he could not help saying to the ministers who were present, “I am fifty-seven years of age, I have witnessed all that passed in the revolution, and it is with deep terror that I go to publish these decrees.”’

‘On Monday, the 26th of July, 1830, which was the beginning of the *grand week*, as it is

called, the three ordinances appeared in the government paper, called the *Moniteur*. The first feeling they produced, was astonishment at the audacity which had put them forth; the next was indignation. To submit, was to give up to despotism at once; to resist, was immediate civil war. Despatches were sent to all the liberal Deputies who lived within a day's journey of Paris, and among the rest to Lafayette, who hastened to the scene of action. Meetings were held in private houses by the Deputies who happened to be in the city; some crowds also were collected, but as the *Moniteur* was little read, except by politicians, the ordinances were not generally known till Tuesday morning. Then consternation was seen on every face. The violation of the charter was in every mouth, and the streets and squares became thronged with the working classes. The journeymen printers, that had been thrown out of employment by the suppression of opposition papers, went from street to street, spreading the news. Business was generally suspended; and as Paris is not only the capital of a great country, but a great manufacturing town besides, thousands of laboring people were soon collected, and spent the day in the streets.

‘The editors of some of the opposition papers were resolved not to submit to the ordinance, which destroyed the liberty of the

press; they accordingly published their papers as usual, on Tuesday morning; and in them was a very spirited protest\* against all the ordinances of the king, signed by forty-four editors.† In this, they boldly declared that the government had acted illegally, and that therefore they did not feel themselves bound to obey its orders; that they should endeavour to publish their papers without asking any permission, and should use every means to secure their delivery throughout France. It concludes thus: "The government has lost that legal character which commands obedience. We shall resist it, therefore, in all that relates to us; and it rests with France to judge to what extent her own resistance is to proceed." This protest of the editors, which was full of good and just sentiments, was very extensively circulated in Paris, and did a great deal towards giving the working classes a proper view of the subject. It served to raise the minds of the ignorant multitude above all selfish and mean motives, and to make them feel that they were called upon to act a great part in a great cause. It taught them to respect private rights, and private property, and only to resist those who should support the unlawful authority of the king. This protest was read

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\* A solemn declaration of opinion, commonly against some act.

† In Paris one newspaper has four or five editors.

aloud to listening crowds, all over Paris, and was received with shouts of applause.

‘As soon as it was known that certain daily papers were printing, in spite of the ordinances, a set of police officers, supported by some of the king’s soldiers, went to each printing-office to seize the presses and types, according to the new regulations. The doors were fastened, and they were denied admittance; and when blacksmiths were sent for to pick the locks, they refused to act. During this delay, the papers containing the protest were printed and thrown out of the windows of the printing-office; they were eagerly snatched up by people who had gathered round to witness the struggle, and were distributed far and wide through the city.

‘At length the police officers entered the premises, scattered the types, broke the presses, and destroyed the property of the disobedient editors. This act of violence determined the citizens of Paris to resist the power of the king. The revolution began then. The people armed themselves with sticks and stones; they shouted, ‘Long live the Charter!’ they menaced and insulted the king’s guards, and broke the windows of the ministers’ houses; but still there was no combination to act together, no attack on the military, and the mob fled before the bodies of cavalry that were ordered to clear the streets and public squares. It was not till Tuesday afternoon, when some of the people



were brutally trampled upon by the horses of the king's guards, and wounded by their sabres, that they defended themselves, or thought of stopping the cavalry by a barricade across the street. Then showers of stones and tiles from the populace, were answered by volleys of musketry, which killed several, and wounded many. This sort of skirmishing was kept up till towards evening, when the multitude retired, to prepare for a more serious resistance the next day, and the great body of troops were marched back to their barracks. This temporary dispersion of the people was regarded by Marshal Marmont, the commander-in-chief of the king's forces in Paris, as a complete triumph; upon which he wrote a letter of congratulation to Charles the Tenth.'

Henry could not help clapping his hands at this, and exclaiming, 'What a set of blind fools the king and all his friends seem to be! What were the ministers doing at this time? were they gone a-hunting too?'

'No, they were making out orders of arrest for the forty-four editors; declaring Paris in a state of siege, and under military law, and pleasing themselves with the idea, that this ebullition of public feeling would soon pass away.'

'Where was our own hero, Lafayette, on Tuesday?' inquired Maria.

‘ He attended a meeting of the liberal Deputies in Paris, and lent his aid in writing a very strong protest against the ordinances, and in consulting on what ought to be done to save the nation from anarchy and confusion. It was plain to the Deputies, that the illegal power of the king would be effectually resisted ; it was therefore their duty to provide for the maintenance of the laws and good order, after that power should be put down ; and to this they gave all attention and diligence.

‘ The last act of the people before they dispersed, on Tuesday evening, was the destruction of all the street-lamps ; this was done, that darkness might conceal their preparations for the next day. Under cover of the night, the arsenals were secured, and the arms distributed among the people ; gun-smiths’ shops were emptied of their contents ; several military posts were overpowered, and the muskets transferred from the soldiers to the populace ; and thus, by Wednesday morning, the streets were filled with crowds of well armed and resolute men. Among them were seen parties of the old National Guards, in their uniform ; and the tri-colored flag, which had been prohibited after the return of the Bourbons, was carried through the streets, amid shouts and acclamations. As Marmont did not expect any further resistance from the Parisians, it was late before he brought his troops to act

against them, and the people had ample time to arm themselves, and take possession of favorable positions. Paving-stones were dug up and carried into the second and third stories of houses, to be showered down on the soldiers. Barricades were formed of carts, wagons, coaches, household furniture, and any thing that could be converted to that use. These served as ramparts of defence for the citizens, and obstructions to the passage of troops through the narrow streets of the city. At length the fight began in various parts of Paris at once, and raged for many hours. The regular fire of the cannon, and volleys of musketry, did great execution among the populace; but as every house served them for a fortress, they had some advantages over the military. The king's guards fought very resolutely; but to be hemmed in by these newly invented barricades, showered upon by paving-stones, and fired at from houses and walls that protected their enemies, was a kind of warfare which they were wholly unused to, and could not long support. The people felt that they were fighting for their liberties, for all that made life valuable; and their enthusiasm for the cause made them perform prodigies of valor. Young and old, of both sexes, were filled with the same exalted courage. Mothers excited their young sons to the conflict, and women took care of the wounded at the risk of their own lives.

‘ About noon on Wednesday, Marmont perceived that the king’s guards were defeated at every point, and he sent to inform his royal master (who was at his palace of St. Cloud, a few miles from Paris), that the people were victorious, and his throne in danger. But this was not sufficient to disturb king Charles’s belief that he should yet reign absolute monarch over France ; and he sent word to the commander-in-chief “to persevere, to assemble his troops in large numbers, and to fight on.”

‘ Accordingly the battle continued throughout the day ; and, after twelve hours of hard fighting, the troops returned to the head-quarters established in the palace of the Tuileries, and the people retired to refresh themselves for new deeds of valor on the morrow, and to make further preparations for their warfare.

‘ During the night, between Wednesday and Thursday, all the streets by which the guards had entered, or were likely to enter, were broken up, and immense barricades of earth and paving-stones were formed at intervals across them. Fine trees, that ornamented the public walks of Paris, were cut down for the same purpose ; and so diligently did the people labor at this work, that before morning, every street and alley, that was not occupied by troops, immediately around the Tuileries, was rendered impassable for cavalry or artillery. Men, women, and children had lent their aid

to accomplish this great work ; and, by daylight on Thursday, the whole city was in such a state as would have set at defiance the advance of the most numerous army. Nor was this all that was done on that busy and important night. Councils were held, hopes strengthened, and resolutions confirmed. Additional bodies of citizens armed themselves, and the students of different colleges in Paris came forth among the people. Some of these had been trained to arms, and were joyfully received as leaders.

‘On Thursday morning, the battle was renewed ; but several regiments of regular troops, being less attached to the king than his guards, refused to fire on the people, and two regiments joined with them, and hoisted the national colors.’

Henry was so excited on hearing this, that he shouted out ‘Huzza!’ loud enough to startle the whole party, and make his father forget what he was going to say next. Though he rejoiced in the successes of the people, he did not wish the battle ended ; so he said, ‘I hope, father, this is not the last of the three days’ fight.’

‘I am happy to say it was. Many lives had been sacrificed on both sides ; the courage and good conduct of the citizens had been put to the severest trials ; but this last day of hard fighting won the freedom of France.

‘Shut out from the streets, the king’s forces

were on this day collected, in large numbers, in all the principal squares and public buildings of the city, which they were determined to defend to the last. The populace, now formed into lines, and led on by the students, attacked the military in a more orderly manner than on the previous days. Though frequently repulsed with great slaughter, they returned to the contest with fresh courage, and, after many hours of severe conflict, the citizens did at last completely rout their enemies, and oblige the troops to fly before them.

‘By three o’clock on Thursday afternoon, Paris was completely rid of all the royal forces; and Charles the Tenth was left without any power over that capital, in which he thought himself secure of reigning with absolute control. Only think how surprised he must have been, when he saw his troops and his ministers flying from Paris to St. Cloud, and heard that all was lost!’

‘He must have been surprised, indeed,’ said Maria; and a thoughtful pause followed, which Henry interrupted by exclaiming, ‘So that was the end of the three days’ fight!’

‘Yes, my son, that was the end of the *three days*, but it was only the middle of the *great week*, and the important consequences of that fighting, are yet to be told, as well as the wise part which our hero took in settling the affairs of the nation, and securing its liberty. But it

is now late, and we must leave that till to-morrow night.'

Henry was, for once, willing that his father should stop, because he wished to think more about the battle of Paris, before he heard the rest of what happened in that glorious revolution.

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### SEVENTEENTH EVENING.

'Good night, my little dears!' said Mr. Moreton, as his youngest children left the room; 'I suppose I shall have to tell the same story all over again, when you are old enough to understand it.'

'I hope,' replied his wife, 'to save you that trouble, for I have written down your narrative as you told it. By putting in some of the children's questions, and remarks, and all your explanations, I hope to make the reading of my manuscript as satisfactory to the younger children, as your story has been to the older ones.'

'That is a very good idea, and I am much obliged to you for it;' said Mr. Moreton, 'and if you will make the narrative as exact in dates and facts as it ought to be, and cor-

rect all my faults in telling it, I will have it printed, that other little boys and girls may know how to appreciate the character, and be acquainted with the life, of the most remarkable man of his age.'

'Pray do, pray do,' said the children; 'and then we can read it over as often as we please, and have it all clear and plain before us, instead of puzzling over our written notes.'

After some further conversation about their mother's manuscript, the children begged their father to go on with the history of the *great week*; and Maria reminded him that he had left off just where the city of Paris was cleared of the king's troops.

'Well then,' said Mr. Moreton, 'I will go on from there. You must know, children, that the well-won battles of the Parisians would have been all in vain, had not wiser heads than those who fought them been at work, to save the nation from confusion, and to provide the country with a government after that of the Bourbons was destroyed. A large meeting of Deputies was held on Thursday afternoon, at which they wrote a congratulatory address to the Parisians on their glorious victory, and appointed a temporary government of three persons, the Duke de Choiseul, General Gerard, and General Lafayette. This last name secured the confidence of the nation; all hearts were prepared to trust in his wisdom



and in his disinterestedness, who had been, for more than half a century, the faithful champion of liberty and good order. The venerable patriot, who had waited so long and so patiently for an opportunity of effectually aiding his country, now came forward boldly in her service, and exerted all his wisdom, and all his influence, to secure the blessing which the Parisians had fought so bravely to obtain.'

'I think,' said Mrs. Moreton, 'the Parisians must be improved since the days of the former revolution, or else they would certainly have made some bad use of their victory.'

'It is said they are, and their moderation after the battle was more admirable than the courage which won it. Indeed the moral conduct of the Parisians, during the whole struggle, was worthy of all praise. Though many of the combatants were poor people, to whom a little money would have been a great acquisition, they entered places where they could have taken what sums they pleased without fear of detection, and yet no robberies were committed. In fighting for the charter, they would not break the laws. As soon as Paris was cleared of royal troops, the citizens returned to their houses or workshops, as if no extraordinary convulsion had happened; and the settlement of the government was left to those who best understood it.

'You may remember that Lafayette was the

founder of the National Guards in 1789. He was always looked upon by those citizen-soldiers as their father, and now, when they were re-organizing themselves, he was immediately chosen their Commander-in-chief.'

'Why, that was the very office he refused in the other revolution,' said Maria; 'did he accept it now?'

'Yes he did, because the dangerous state of the nation at this moment required such an office, and he knew that his experience would be useful in forming National Guards all over the country as well as in Paris. This remarkable hero of three revolutions went to the City Hall, on Thursday afternoon, at the head of a large body of National Guards, and accompanied by an immense assemblage of citizens in a high state of excitement and enthusiasm. From that place, he issued the wisest proclamations; such as, whilst they animated and encouraged all true patriots to maintain the cause of freedom, tended to preserve good order and support the laws. Towards evening a deputation arrived at the City Hall from St. Cloud; it brought proposals for an accommodation between the king and the people. Charles the Tenth now offered to change his ministry and repeal the ordinances. But it was too late; the people had gained a victory over the kingly power, which gave them a right to chose a sovereign for themselves. A

crown was to be given away ; and they would not certainly bestow it upon one who had broken his oath, violated the liberties of the nation, and lost all claim to its confidence. No, Charles the Tenth had ceased to reign ; and when the deputation returned to him from Paris, he and his courtiers were obliged to believe the fact. On Saturday he fled from St. Cloud to Rambouillet, and soon afterwards left the kingdom, accompanied by his own family and a very small number of followers. He was suffered to pass through the country without molestation, a mere object of contempt and neglect.'

'I am glad,' said Maria, 'to have done with that poor silly king. Now let us hear what they did, during the rest of the *great week* ; you had only proceeded as far as Thursday evening.'

'On Friday morning, order was completely restored ; the National Guards of Paris were organized, and doing their duty in every quarter of the city ; the national colors floated from all the public buildings ; people walked about in safety through the barricaded streets, and the Deputies met in their own Chamber. The first thing the Deputies did was to invite the Duke of Orleans, a cousin of Charles the Tenth, but a very different man, to be Lieutenant-General of the kingdom. He was friendly to the revolution, and willing to allow

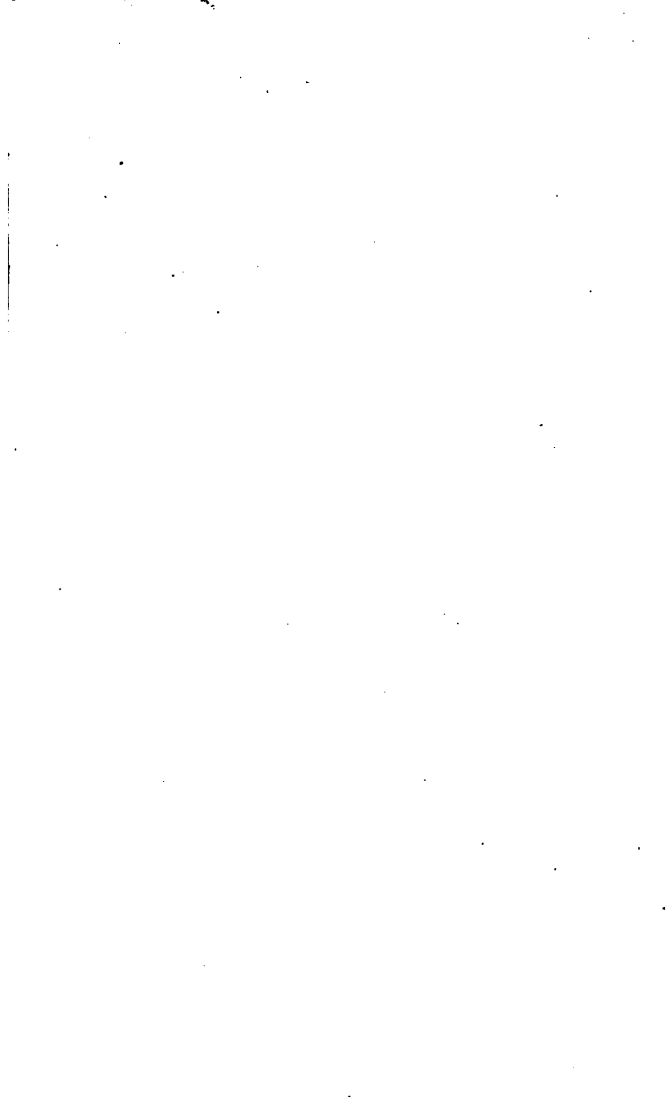
the people all the freedom they desired ; and on Saturday morning he issued a proclamation, in which he informed the Parisians that he accepted the place of Lieutenant-General of the kingdom, that he adopted the tri-colored flag, and would maintain the charter. Thus ended the *great week*, as it is called, and a most remarkable period it was. But much still remained to be done.

‘ A great deal of business of the first importance was now to be transacted in the Chamber of Deputies. There our aged patriot was always listened to with respect, and showed himself true to his principles, and firm in the discharge of duty.

‘ In a few days the charter was remodelled and made more favorable to the liberty of the people ; and the Chamber came to the determination of offering the crown to the Duke of Orleans, on condition that he would rule the nation according to the principles there laid down. All the Deputies who voted for the measure, went in a body to the Duke’s palace, carrying the new charter with them, and cheered by the populace as they went. The gates of the palace were opened wide to receive such important visitors. Louis Philip listened very attentively to the reading of the charter, accepted it cordially, and pledged himself to maintain it. He then went out on a balcony, and showed himself to the people,

with our old republican General on one side of him, and the President of the Chamber, M. Lafitte, on the other. Here Lafayette took the hand of the newly chosen king, and said to his fellow Deputies, "I have always, you know, been a republican ; and here is the best of republics for us." This speech shows that Lafayette still thought a limited monarchy the best form of government for France. Louis Philip is now the citizen king of that great people, and Lafayette is still the guardian of their rights, watching over the councils of the nation, and endeavouring to render its institutions as much as possible like those of our happy republic. This is as much as you need know at present of the great and good Lafayette. Whatever has since occurred is to be found in the newspapers, but is too recent to be considered as authentic matter of history.'

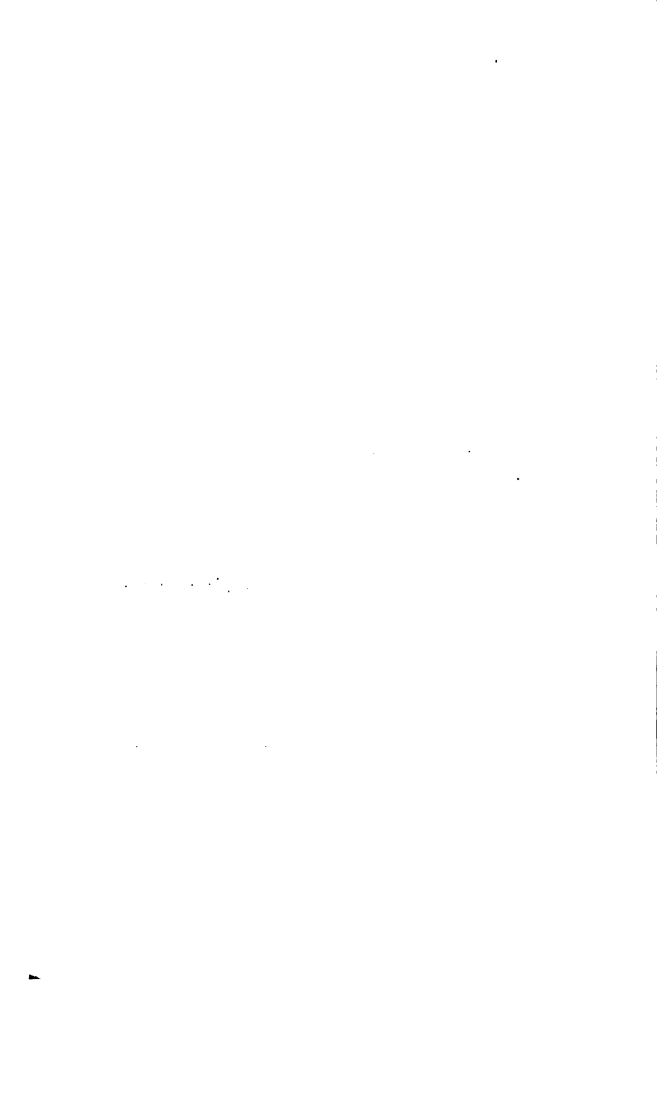
THE END.











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